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Ambush victim was freed after Old Bailey jury rejected terror charge

Cleared IRA man shot by SAS

BY EDWARD GORMAN
IRELAND
CORRESPONDENT

SAS soldiers are believed to be behind the ambush of an IRA unit in Northern Ireland which left four of them dead, including a man cleared by an Old Bailey jury of arms offences last year, it emerged last night.

Kevin Barry O'Donnell, aged 21, was also a prime suspect in the IRA bombing of an army barracks at Tern Hill, Shropshire, three years ago. At his trial, O'Donnell told the jury he had been horrified to discover the rifles in his car and was on his way to dump them when stopped by police.

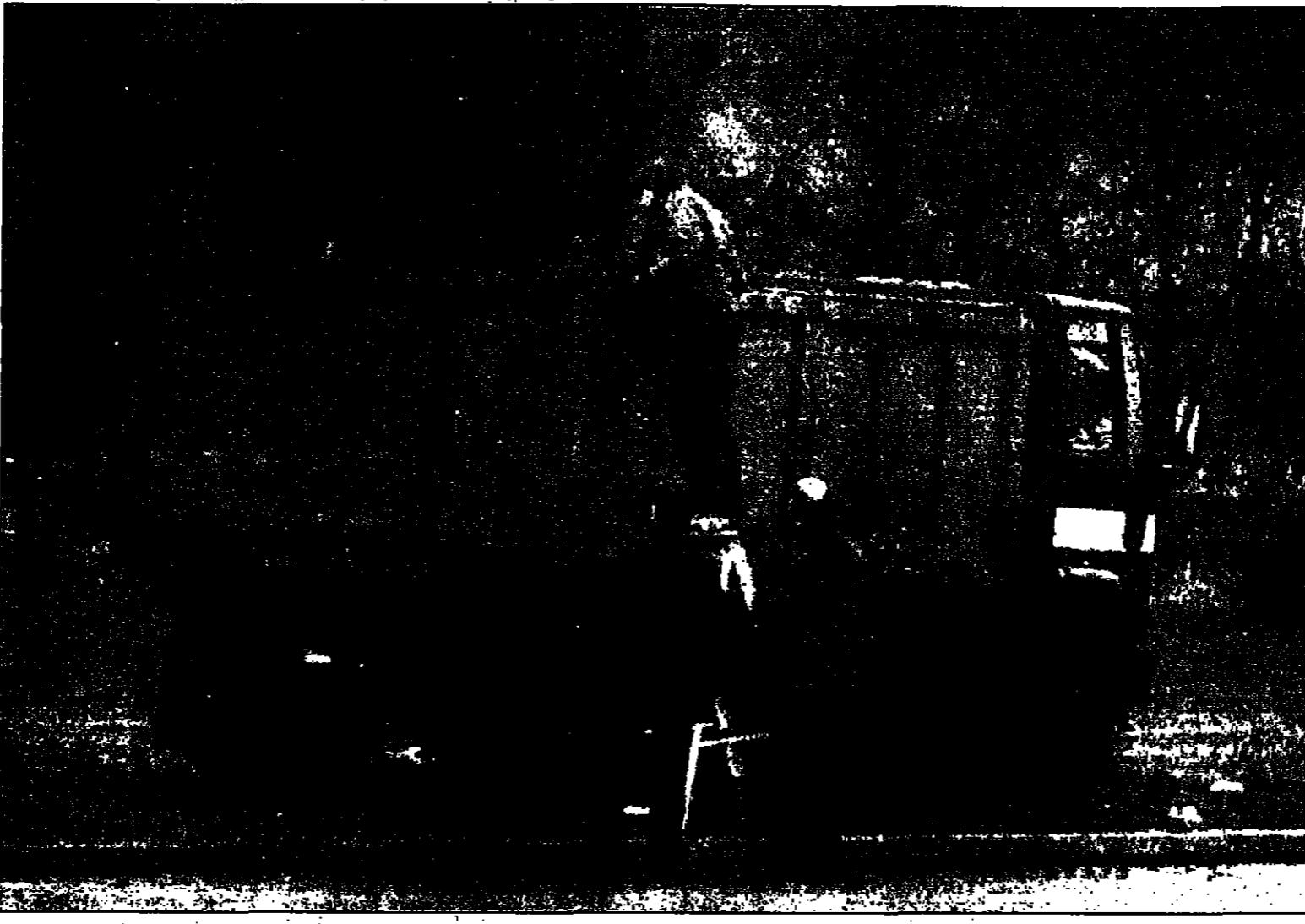
He had told them: "I am not a member of the IRA. I do not support the IRA. I come from a devout Catholic family and do not support the taking of life." The jury believed him and he was freed on a majority verdict.

Security sources were last night said to be indicating involvement of the elite army unit in the intense gun battle at Coalisland, Co Tyrone, late on Sunday night but in line with official policy the army refused to acknowledge the unit had been used.

O'Donnell, from Coalisland, was convicted on two lesser charges of possessing guns to endanger life and sentenced to nine months in youth custody, but was set free and expelled to Northern Ireland because he had already spent ten months on remand.

O'Donnell died with three others in the car park of a church outside Coalisland. He was part of an IRA assault team which may have involved up to ten men, making its getaway after attacking the town's police station.

Police named the other dead as Sean O'Farrell, aged 22, and Peter Clancy, aged 21, both from Coalisland, and Patrick Daniel Vincent,



IRA attacker: the lorry, with a 12.7mm heavy machine gun mounted on the back, which was ambushed by soldiers

aged 20, from Dungannon.

Security sources said O'Farrell had been an active member of the IRA for some years. He was charged in April last year together with O'Donnell after assault rifles and an RPG-7 rocket were found in a car in which they were travelling.

The case was later dropped after the owner of the car accepted responsibility for the weapons. Clancy, also regarded as an active member of the IRA, had been questioned by the police but never charged.

The exact sequence of events on Sunday night is still unclear. In particular, police were unable to say pending forensic examination of weapons whether the IRA had opened fire on soldiers in the car park before they were killed.

According to the police, the Provisional unit travelling in a lorry launched a sustained gun attack on the police station at about 10.35pm, firing from several points and deploying a 12.7mm heavy machine gun from the back of the lorry. The vehicle was later recovered, together with a number of assault rifles.

The IRA team then drove out of the town to a car park at St. Patrick's Church at Clonoe and appeared to be in



O'Donnell: cleared by a jury of gun-running

the process of abandoning the lorry for a number of cars, when soldiers, who lay in wait, opened fire.

Local people spoke of the soldiers wearing unusual uniforms. One eyewitness said they were wearing dark jackets, running shoes and peaked caps with the word army written in luminous letters.

Only one soldier was slightly injured during the shooting. While security forces expressed satisfaction

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Analysis and background, page 2
Leading article, page 13

Hezbollah vows revenge as rockets strike Israel

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN KIRYAT SHMONA AND ALI JABER IN BEIRUT

THE shock waves from rockets exploding in northern Israel put new pressure on the delicate hopes for Middle East peace yesterday as Hezbollah sought to avenge their assassinated leader.

The first barrage on Israeli towns and villages along the Lebanon border in a decade triggered a day of artillery duels between Israel and Lebanon forces. General Ehud Barak, Israeli chief of staff, said that between 20 and 30 Soviet-made Katyusha rockets were fired, some of them landing in the Israeli-controlled security zone in southern Lebanon, but several reaching heavily populated Israeli civilian areas from the Mediterranean to the Golan Heights.

As he spoke, Israeli artillery batteries and their South Lebanon Army allies pounded the suspected villages in southern Lebanon. A witness described the barrages as "all-out war". Despite appeals from Britain, America and other Western nations, the fighting showed no signs of abating.

Across the border in Lebanon, anguished Muslim fundamentalists beat their breasts and demanded retribution as the body of Sheikh Abbas Moussawi was taken

north to the Shira suburbs of south Beirut and on to Baalbek where 100,000 mourners greeted the arrival of the remains. He will be buried in Nabatieh village today.

"We are trying to hit the sources of this shooting with artillery; unfortunately, some of the targets are in or near civilian villages (in Lebanon)," General Barak said after inspecting a company of Israeli airborne troops before they were flown into Lebanon on combat duty. "The Lebanese army and government should be responsible for stopping the shooting; otherwise, the price will be costly for the other side."

He spoke, Israeli artillery batteries and their South Lebanon Army allies pounded the suspected villages in southern Lebanon. A witness described the barrages as "all-out war". Despite appeals from Britain, America and other Western nations, the fighting showed no signs of abating.

There were no Israeli casualties when the salvo of rockets struck at about 7am, but they succeeded in penetrating Israel's hi-tech security apparatus and causing momentary panic among civilians in the mountain region of northern Galilee.

In Beirut, a previously unknown fundamentalist organisation issued a statement urging Hezbollah to execute all Israeli prisoners it has been holding since 1986, especially Ron Arad, an air force navigator. The Lebanese government, for its part, called for an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council to discuss the Israeli attacks. May Ka-

hileh, for the president, said that the council of ministers was remaining in session to deal with any emergency.

Meanwhile, the hitherto unknown group, "Units to defend the Oppressed and the Disinherited around the World", released a statement to a Western news agency urging vengeance for Sheikh Moussawi's death.

The group asked in a handwritten statement that the captors of the Israeli navigator and prisoners to immediately execute them and declare war against all Israeli interests around the world.

The group was referring to Arad and at least six Israeli servicemen missing in action in Lebanon on various occasions since 1982. All are believed dead except Arad, who may be held by Syria.

The Lebanese army command said that it has placed all its units in south Lebanon on alert and had sent a commando battalion to support the army on the front.

Prosper Azran, mayor of Kiryat Shmona, tried to ease concern among the people of this development town, but residents were quick to recall the bombardments that plagued the border area before the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon code-named "Operation Peace for Galilee".

General Barak said yesterday: "The only way to impose restraint on Hezbollah is either by Syrian pressure or Israeli military response... if they succeed, there will be a relaxation of the situation; if not, we will respond."

Photograph page 11
Peace struggle, page 11
Leading article, page 13

Judge calls for shorter trials

A CALL for shorter and simpler fraud trials was made yesterday by Mr Justice McKinnon as he handed down suspended jail sentences on four City advisers at the end of a year-long Blue Arrow hearing.

The judge, at 53 one of the youngest on the High Court bench, said: "There must be some other way of dealing with cases of this kind. No jury, no defendant, no family and no judge should ever have to face what we have had to face."

The Old Bailey jury that

found the four men guilty of conspiracy to defraud had been told how they deliberately misled the market at the time of Blue Arrow's record £837 million rights issue in September 1987 to fund the takeover of Manpower, a larger American employment company.

Jonathan Cohen, aged 48, deputy chief executive of NatWest Investment Bank and chief executive of County NatWest, David Reed, aged 44, former executive director and managing director of corporate finance at County

End of the trial, page 3

NatWest, and Nicholas Wells, aged 37, former County NatWest executive director, were given 18-month prison sentences, suspended for two years: Martin Gibbs, aged 62, a former director of UBS Phillips and Drew, was given a 12-month term suspended for two years.

After the hearing, Gareth Williams, QC, chairman of the Bar, joined the judge in a call for fraud trial reform. He said juries should be retained but hearings simplified.

Photograph page 11
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Yousaf Younis, the Pakistani fast bowler, has withdrawn from cricket's World Cup because of a back injury. Page 32

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Member of IRA team shot by soldiers cleared twice in a year of serious firearms charges

Police link O'Donnell to mainland campaign

By STEWART TENDER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BARRY "Bod" O'Donnell died at the hands of the security forces after a career which Scotland Yard now suspects included an early part in the current IRA mainland campaign. Yet twice in the past year O'Donnell faced serious firearms charges only to be acquitted at the Central Criminal Court and freed in Northern Ireland.

Police believe that the man who publicly disavowed political violence may have been involved in the attempted attack on Tern Hill barracks in Shropshire in 1989. A getaway car was found close to where he was later discovered studying.

They suspect he could have had links to the IRA unit which carried out the first bombing of the campaign at north London army base six months earlier.

His role as a leading figure in the raid which led to his death indicates, according to police, that O'Donnell was an experienced IRA activist rising in the loosely formed ranks. The other men who died with him were Sean O'Farrell, Peter Vincent and Patrick Clancy. All are known to the police and several are also suspected of having been active on the mainland during the current campaign.

They were recruited for the mainland, as the IRA turned away from its traditional sources of manpower in Belfast and Londonderry. Instead, the commanders looked to the border country, the Irish Republic and smaller Ulster Catholic communities.

Born the third of seven children in a Catholic fam-

ily from the small country town of Coalisland, Co Tyrone, O'Donnell spent 18 months at Harper Adams College of Agriculture at Egmont, Shropshire. He was his last term in May 1990 when he was arrested by police in London after a car chase. Two semi-automatic weapons were found in the car.

At the trial last spring O'Donnell, then 20, said he often spent weekends in London with a cousin. The cousin once revealed the car had been lent to IRA men to store weapons. His cousin, who disappeared, agreed to lead him to a place where the guns could be dumped. O'Donnell said he abhorred violence and came from a devoutly religious family.

The jury was out for more than 11 hours before acquitting him in the week that the Birmingham Six were freed. O'Donnell's case became the first of three IRA trials at the Central Criminal Court which have led to acquittals.

Cleared of possession of guns to endanger life, he was convicted of simple possession and was given nine months youth custody. He was released because he had been in custody since his arrest.

O'Donnell was sent back to Northern Ireland via an exclusion order issued under the prevention of terrorism act. A month later he was in court again, this time in Ulster, accused of possession of an assault rifle and a rocket-propelled grenade launcher with O'Farrell, one of the other men killed in the shooting.

The case against the two men was dropped. Afterwards O'Donnell claimed "certain sections" of the security forces in East Tyrone were waging a vendetta against him and had told him he was a "marked man".

IRA links, page 1
Leading article, page 13



Clancy: shot and killed in car during ambush

Cabinet dispute shelves rail privatisation sell-off plan

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government's timetable for unveiling its plans to sell off British Rail has been disrupted by a cabinet rift, and publication is likely to be delayed until after the election.

In his first public admission that the Conservatives' biggest and most contentious outstanding privatisation has run into difficulties, John Major said last night that he could not be certain that the long-awaited white paper would appear before polling day. Mr Major's citizen's charter, published in July, stated: "We expect to set out our detailed plans in a white paper later this year."

Mr Major emphasised at the Conservative party press conference the complexity of the task before the cabinet, and the need to get social and safety aspects right before deciding his hand. He said: "There is a great deal to be worked out before the privatisation white paper is ready. It may be ready this side of the election. I cannot be absolutely sure. If it isn't, the principal points will be in the manifesto."

Mr Major made no reference to the role of Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, in the deadlock over the sell-off. Mr Rifkind's strongly

preferred option is for a sale of InterCity as a going concern to lead the return to the private sector. This has brought him into conflict with Mr Major, who wants to see a revival of the former national railway companies.

Other senior ministers have suggested that Mr Rifkind has overplayed his hand by briefing the press that agreement is close. One said that ministers would not be pushed into accepting his proposals.

Mr Major's comments came after Downing Street sources indicated that the cabinet consideration of the terms of the disposal had been held up by new questions over the fate of valuable land, track and station assets, and over the type of regulatory body that would be created to supervise a market operation. Officials were still trying to sort out what Mr Major called "many technical things."

The latest line from Downing Street is in marked contrast to the bullish line taken as long ago as last July, when the citizen's charter was released. Subsequent briefings, particularly from the transport department, have suggested that, although the

deadline had been put back to early this year, ministers remained on course to publish their proposals in good time for polling day.

In recent weeks, as some senior Tory MPs have questioned the wisdom of handing Labour potentially valuable election ammunition, Downing Street sources have been gradually backing away from this commitment.

John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, said in a BBC radio interview yesterday that ministers were split in every direction over the future of British Rail. He said: "This Government had an ideological obsession that it must be privatised – didn't know how to do it, didn't know if it would make it any better, but it was the only answer they had for our railway crisis."

Proposals for a passenger's charter have been delayed because of the complexities of drafting a workable document. Roger Freeman, the transport minister, said yesterday.

The passengers' charter, which was first unveiled by John Major last April, is intended to provide passengers with compensation for those services which fail to meet targets.

Abortion groups decry Irish ruling

The judgment stopping a young rape victim having an abortion is disastrous, women's groups say. **Richard Ford** reports

WOMEN'S groups in Britain predicted that one effect of the Irish High Court ruling yesterday preventing a rape victim aged 14 from having an abortion would result in women from the republic seeking help at a later stage in their pregnancies.

They suggested that the judgment would increase fear and anxiety among women, making them delay seeking advice and abortions.

Tara Kaufmann, a spokesman for the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS), said: "This is an absolutely disastrous ruling for the 14-year-old girl and for any woman who has been raped in the Irish Republic. We think it will make women delay seeking help at a time when they need it most."

Official statistics show that 2,065 women from the Irish Republic and 918 from Northern Ireland had abortions in England and Wales in the first six months of last year. Women's organisations in the South believe the real figure is much higher.

About 25 women a week from Ireland seek help at the BPAS offices in Victoria, cen-

tral London. They usually arrive on a Friday to receive counselling, are given an abortion the following day and return home on Sunday.

Many arrive in Britain

short of money and without the support of friends or family. As it is illegal to sell or

distribute magazines containing information about abortion in the Republic, women wanting abortions are reliant on information from an underground network of private telephone numbers. Some seek help on abortion in Northern Ireland where, although abortion is illegal, advertising advice about British services is allowed.

Anne Rossiter, a member of the London-based Irish Women's Abortion Support Group, said: "The judgment will make women more fearful but it will not stem the tide coming to Britain."

A spokesman for the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child accused pro-abortionists in the Republic of exploiting the 14-year-old victim and her case in order to change the constitution.

Resignation call, page 1

£20,000 for victims of 'police racism'

Two black people who claimed they were treated as caged animals after being stopped for alleged speeding, were yesterday awarded £20,000 in an out-of-court settlement against the Metropolitan Police. (writes Lin Jenkins)

The award, to Rodney Pilgrim, 31, from Barbados, and his cousin, Valerie Marche, 30, of Stratford, east London, was announced at Croydon county court, south London. An agreed statement read to Judge Goodman said the offer had been accepted. The police would also pay the pair's costs.

Mr Pilgrim was arrested on suspicion of possessing cannabis on December 4, 1988. He and Mrs Marche had been in a car driven by her tax consultant husband, Patrick, 32, when they were stopped in east London.

In a personal statement after the hearing, the three said the officers who had carried out "this very callous and appalling act" were very lucky because the offer had been accepted only because they did not have the funds to take the case further. "We would deem ourselves respectable citizens, but on the night of the incident we were treated as caged animals, having no say and no rights," they said.

Both sued for false imprisonment and Mr Pilgrim also sued for malicious prosecution. They claimed aggravated and exemplary damages on the basis that the case had been fabricated and that there had been a racist element in their treatment. The police denied the claims.

Chip shop to beat town ban

An Essex seaside resort which has long banned amusement arcades, ice-cream kiosks and even public houses, looks certain to get its first fish and chip shop. Tendring district council, which controls planning in Frinton-on-Sea, says that proposals to convert a tea rooms in the centre of the town do not need an application for a change of use.

By-laws in Frinton also outlaw nude bathing, ball games and the playing of radios on the promenade.

Tennant dies of heart attack

The Hon James Tennant, who was involved last summer in an acrimonious dispute with his next door neighbour, has died of a heart attack at the age of 62. It was learned yesterday. He was in the midst of litigation with Charles Saatchi, the advertising magnate, in which both alleged harassment at their adjoining £1 million homes in St Leonards' terrace, Chelsea, west London.

Nato posting

Lieutenant-General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie is to be the first commander of Nato's new multinational rapid reaction corps. Sir Jeremy, aged 51, commander of 1st British Corps in Germany since last autumn, will take up his post later this year. He has a reputation for being a popular and highly effective commander. Britain is to provide two divisions for the rapid reaction corps.

Elton sells

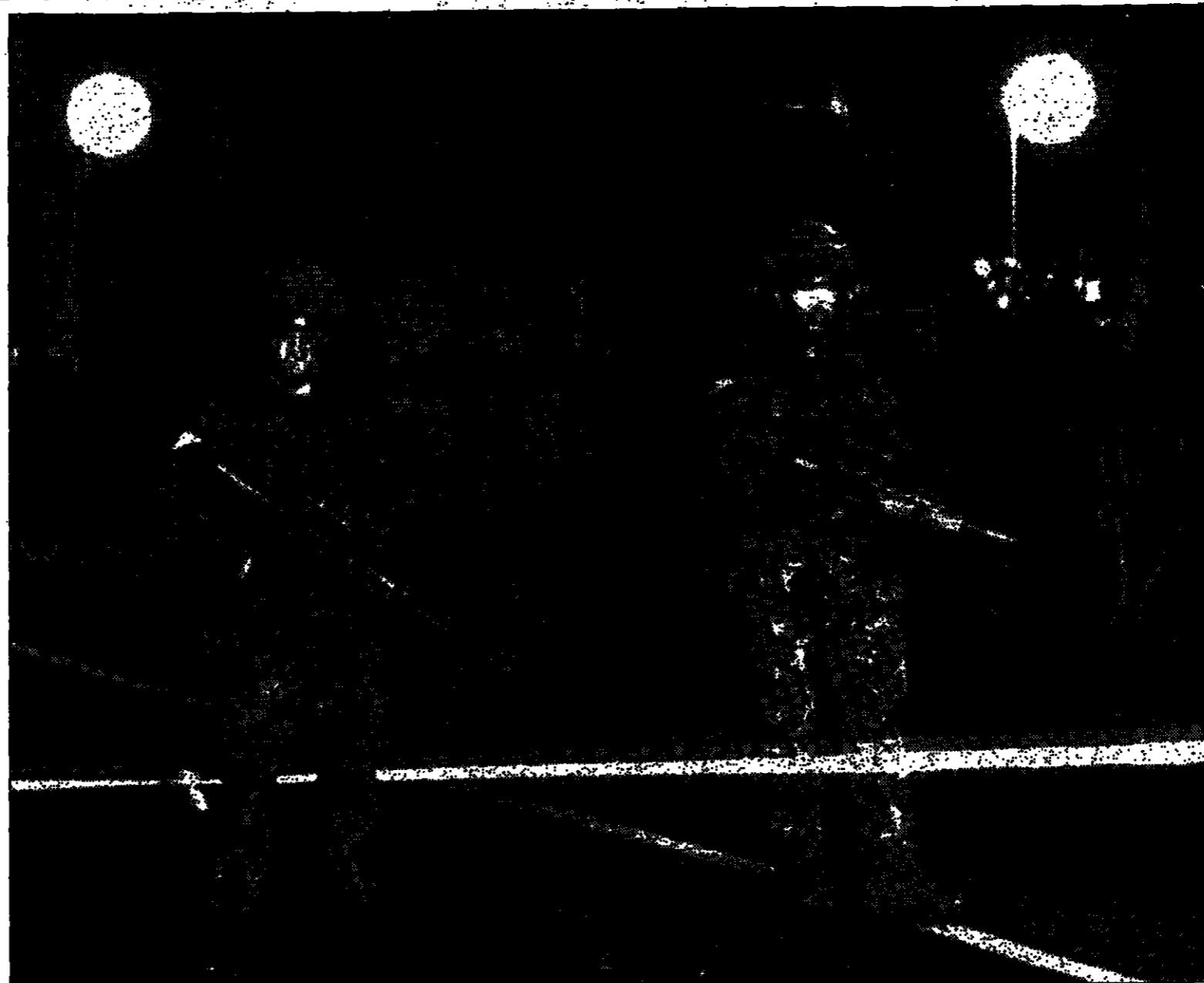
ELTON John, the pop singer, is selling his £1.25 million flat in Chelsea Harbour, west London. He bought the 15th floor flat just over a year ago and spent £100,000 on renovating and decorating it. But decided not to live there. "He's never spent a night there," said a spokesman for the singer. "He originally intended to use it as a pied-à-terre when he was in London, but he never moved in."

Briton jailed

A Portuguese court jailed Michael Cook, a mechanic, for 19 years yesterday for the kidnapping and murder of a 10-year-old British girl. Cook, aged 39, of Southend-on-Sea, Essex, has already spent more than a year in jail since being charged with the killing of Rachel Charles, who disappeared in November 1990. Her body was found after her mother received a £300,000 ransom demand.

Fleeting visit

A British doctor is making a 3,000 mile round trip to see her son for two hours. Penny Cracknell's 13-month-old son Alex was taken by her former lover, Ivo Zaharievski – the child's father – on January 22 and flown to Belgrade after the couple split up. Dr Cracknell was granted legal custody and is trying to get Alex back. Dr Zaharievski, a surgeon, has said she can see the child for two hours.



Gun patrol: troops guard the spot in Coalisland where soldiers shot dead four gang members who had opened fire on a police station

Weeks of planning go into SAS ambush operations

Edward Gorman reports that the pattern of Sunday's ambush of four IRA men follows a tested formula

may be significant that this latest episode comes almost exactly a month after an IRA unit killed eight Protestant workers in a land mine explosion just 15 miles from Coalisland.

This pattern of a major IRA operation followed by an army killing is reminiscent of events in Co Tyrone in August 1988, when three IRA members, including Gerard and Martin Harte, were shot by the army within weeks of an IRA bus bombing on the Ballygawley road, in which nine soldiers died. It was thought that at least one of those killed by the army had been involved in the bombing.

Among the most significant army undercover killings in the last two years was the shooting of three men said by the IRA to be on "active service" in Coagh, Co Tyrone, in June last year. Soldiers involved in what security forces called "a specialist covert army operation" fired up to 200 shots at the men's hijacked car as they drove into the village, apparently on their way to kill a group of Protestant

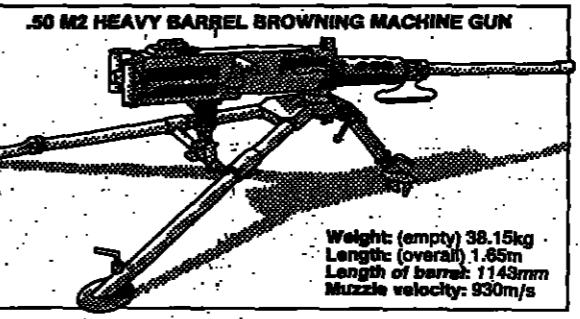
workmen. The dead included Peter Ryan, the IRA's leading gunman in mid-Ulster, responsible for a series of murders and described by a senior police officer as "a big fish".

In an earlier shooting, in October 1990, undercover soldiers killed Dessie Drew and Martin McCaughey at a farmhouse near Loughgall in Co Armagh; as they prepared for an IRA mission. Drew was another experienced member of the IRA, wanted for killings in Ulster and Europe, while McCaughey was a former Sinn Fein councillor.

Other killings include a member of the Irish People's Liberation Organisation, shot in April 1990, while trying to kill a police reservist, and, following November, a member of the Irish National Liberation Army, shot during an attack on the home of an Ulster Defence Regiment soldier.

While in most of these cases victims of SAS-type operations have turned out to be members of republican paramilitary groups, this could not be said in the case of three petty criminals shot dead in west Belfast in January 1990. They were robbing a betting shop, carrying replica weapons.

Irish police found an IRA arms bunker and 1,000 rounds of ammunition in remote countryside in Co Kerry yesterday.



Killer went on 'orgy of violence'

Richard Ford

A DOUBLE murderer who tried to shoot police storming his flat was jailed for life yesterday, with a recommendation that he serve at least 18 years.

The Central Criminal Court had been told that Thomas Cook, aged 29, had gone on a ten-day "hideous orgy" of drunken violence in February last year.

The court was told he battered Christopher Jabelman, aged 59, to death in a dispute over a £25 benefit giro, made love to his girl friend at Mr Jabelman's home in Pinner, northwest London, while the dead man's body lay nearby, by drove into a house and stole two pistols, shot and killed Mrs Pauline Russell, aged 40, a neighbour, and shot her husband in the arms. He also pulled the trigger of one gun when police raided his home, but it misfired.

Cook, of Pinner, was appearing for sentence after pleading guilty last month to the two murders, attempting to murder Christopher Russell, aged 35, robbery, burglary, and making use of a firearm with intent to resist arrest.

Judge Brian Smedley QC said Cook's callousness was quite appalling.

£20,000
for victim
of 'police
racism'

Conspiracy to defraud by City advisers was not committed for personal gain, judge says

Blue Arrow four given suspended prison sentences

BY BILL FROST

SUSPENDED prison sentences were yesterday imposed on four former City advisers to the Blue Arrow employment agency for conspiring to rig the stock market. The convictions bring to an end an Old Bailey trial that had cost an estimated £35 million and lasted for more than a year.

Before passing sentence, Mr Justice McKinnon commented sharply on the length of the hearing. "There must be some other way of dealing with cases of this kind. No jury, no defendant, no family and no judge should ever have to face what we have had to face."

Many lessons on presentation of evidence would have to be learnt from the Blue Arrow hearing if trial by jury for such cases was to survive. If his words were needed, they would be "worth their weight in gold", the judge said.

Three of the four conspirators were given 18-month prison sentences, suspended for two years. They were: Jonathan Cohen, aged 48, deputy chief executive of NatWest Investment Bank and chief executive of County NatWest; David Reed, aged 44, former executive director and managing director of corporate finance at County NatWest, and Nicholas Wells, aged 37, former County NatWest executive director and former member of the corporate advisory department. Martin Gibbs, aged 62, was given a 12-month term suspended for two years. He is a former director of UBS Phillips and Drew.

An Old Bailey jury found the four guilty last Friday of conspiracy to defraud. The court had been told how the City advisers had deliberately misled the market at the time of Blue Arrow's record £837 million rights issue in September 1987 to fund the takeover of Manpower, a larger American employment company. The conspira-

tors concealed vital information that showed the right issue had been a failure. They secretly bought millions of shares to give the impression of success. However, prices slumped after the stock market crash in October 1987, and the investment had to be accounted for.

Mr Justice McKinnon told the court that the four men had committed the offence under entirely exceptional circumstances. "It can only be regarded as a one-off offence committed in a situation involving great personal pressure, certainly overenthusiasm. It was not intended anyone would suffer loss, and certainly part of the reason for the decision was to help Blue Arrow and existing shareholders, and not just the defendants' own companies and employees."

Cohen said: "I recognise that the jury reached a certain conclusion. There are many things I would like to say about the trial. But I have been advised that as we are to appeal it would not be appropriate to make these comments."

The conspirators took no steps to conceal or disguise their actions and the offence had not been committed for personal gain. Not one of the defendants had made one penny from the transaction.

The judge said he would not be making any order against the defendants for costs. Nor would he disqualify them from being directors

Gareth Williams, QC, said that any reform should retain the use of juries, a point made last week by the Lord Chancellor and Barbara Mills, QC, director of the Serious Fraud Office and recently appointed as the next director of public prosecutions.

Mr Williams, who has set up a working party to propose reforms to the way the legal system tackles white-collar crime, called for simplified fraud trials, with fewer defendants and fewer charges.

He also suggested that cases such as Blue Arrow might be considered as civil offences and large companies and their employees could receive huge financial

penalties. A body such as the US Securities Exchange Commission, having a lesser standard of proof than in criminal trials, might be set up to deal with regulatory breaches, the Bar chairman proposed.

There is an argument to distinguish between cases where someone has had their hand in the till, which is clearly a crime, and another area of transgression which is a breach of the regulatory rules.

Such a commission would also have power to disqualify individuals from acting on the stock market, he said.

The comments yesterday of Mr Justice McKinnon as he imposed suspended sentences in the Blue Arrow trial, coming only days after similar remarks by Mr Justice



Trial's end: relief for Martin Gibbs, who received a 12-month suspended sentence, and his wife, Elizabeth



Mr Justice McKinnon: reforms badly needed

Cab drivers offer £5,000 reward

BY PAUL WILKINSON

CAB drivers in London have offered a £5,000 reward in the search for the men who raped two women in their black cabs in separate incidents over the weekend. They fear that their hard-won reputation for safety is being threatened by rogue operators in unlicensed vehicles.

The money has been put up by the Joint Radio Taxi Association, which speaks for 4,300 of the capital's 21,000 licensed cabbies. Ian Simons, the association spokesman, said: "We are very concerned about what has happened. We are utterly convinced it cannot be a licensed driver. It must be someone using either a stolen vehicle or an old one sold off when it no longer met proper standards."

Police are known to be checking the ownership of almost 200 black cabs sold off earlier this month by the receivers of an east London firm which closed in November. Many went to reputable operators, but some were sold to individual cash buyers.

The first attack happened on Friday evening, when a black man armed with a handgun twice raped his passenger at Wood Green, north London. The second attack happened in the early hours of Sunday morning, when a woman took a cab from Oxford Street to Earls Court.

Mr Feigen said women travelling alone should check that their cabby is licensed. "They can first ask to see the driver's badge, and they must really have a look at it," he said. "They can also see if the vehicle is in good condition. All proper drivers keep their taxi clean at all times and won't generally drive about in a battered cab."

"There must also be a taxi meter in the cab, and the licence number should be in the back compartment and at the rear of the taxi. "We're doing all we can to help police with their enquiries. We think we are very close to catching the first rapist."

Universities hope for research brief

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE establishment of an elite tier of research universities came a step closer yesterday with an allocation of student places for 1992-3 which allows some universities to opt out of the expansion in student numbers.

An extra 18,000 places will be funded in the next academic year, more than twice the planned level of expansion. But changes in the distribution of research support will allow some of the most distinguished universities to maintain their funding levels with only small increases in student numbers.

Graeme Davies, chief executive of the Universities Funding Council, said that Oxford, Cambridge and Imp-

erial College, London, would be among those where undergraduate expansion was minimal. Details of the funding allocation will not be published next week, but every university will be guaranteed a budget increase of at least 3 per cent. Additional places have been allocated to those universities recruiting the largest numbers of students from whom they receive only tuition fees.

Vice-chancellors have been concerned that the targeting of government research funds on top-rated departments, combined with pressure to take more undergraduates, will mean that some universities are restricted to teaching only.

Without advocating a formal division into different types of university, Professor Davies said: "Those universities with the greatest strength in research will be able to pursue those interests without having to over-recruit at undergraduate level, because in some ways the two are incompatible."

The funding council's budget of £1,392 million will be 9.2 per cent more than this year. Vice-chancellors welcomed an increase twice the rate of inflation, but added that 1,500 more lecturers would be needed to cope with the expansion envisaged.

Davies: no need to take on too many students

Scientists turn milk into liquid gold

BY KERRY GILL

AT ABOUT £4,000 a litre, milk from a Scottish sheep must be the most costly and sought after in the world. Yesterday it was announced that the German pharmaceutical company Bayer had agreed to pay £10 million for exclusive rights to the milk, which holds out hope for thousands of people who suffer from a genetic disorder.

Tracy, a transgenic sheep, was born after scientists at a small company in Edinburgh injected human genetic material into a fertilised sheep egg. It has resulted in her milk, containing a protein known as Alpha-1-Antitrypsin (AAT), normally found in humans.

Some people, including about 20,000 in Britain, are unable to pro-

duce the protein, leading to emphysema, the degenerative lung disease, liver failure and cystic fibrosis. The gene controls the production of AAT, which prevents the breakdown of tissue in the lung and curbs the build-up of mucus.

The contract has been won by Pharmaceutical Proteins of Edinburgh, which hopes to produce a flock of transgenic sheep like Tracy. Martyn Breeze, marketing director, said it was clear that Britain led the world in this field of biotechnology.

Ron James, the company's managing director, said: "AAT is an ideal candidate for the application of transgenic production technology. Although it is currently available in the USA as a plasma-derived product, the

quantities that can be produced are limited. Our technology will permit the production of essentially unlimited quantities of AAT, making it possible to administer the product to all of those who will benefit from treatment."

A deficiency of AAT is the most common genetic disorder and affects up to 100,000 people in Europe and North America. According to Bayer, which expressed interest after two major British drug companies turned down an offer to buy Tracy's milk, between 3,000 and 4,000 people in what was West Germany suffered from AAT deficiency. Life for Tracy, Dr Breeze said, was very pleasant as she was fed on the best food with no prospect of ending up on a dinner plate.

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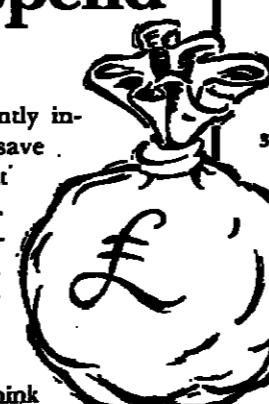
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Maxwell killed himself, aide says

BY JOHN YOUNG

ROBERT Maxwell committed suicide because he could not face the ignominy of being torn to pieces by "the wolves of the City and the wolves in the press", Nick Davies, former foreign editor of the *Daily Mirror*, said yesterday.

Mr Davies, who was dismissed after allegations that he had been involved in arms dealing, described Maxwell as a lonely old man whose entire power base was going to be ripped away from him. He had tried everything in his power to keep his empire afloat, but he had failed.

"More than likely he realised that he would probably be put in the dock and jailed, and he couldn't take that," Mr Davies said in an interview on BBC Radio 4. Here was a man who had bestrode the world, was a friend of politicians and prime ministers, and to whom people came literally at his beck and call, and he could not face the consequences.

Although he had friends in high places, he found himself alone in his ivory tower, Maxwell House, telephoning people out of boredom and sitting on his bed pressing all the switches on the television set. He would never go out because he expected people to come to him.

Mr Davies agreed that there had been a problem about a woman with whom he was living, and of whom Maxwell was "rather fond." He said: "We used to have many conversations, if that was the right word, and I was not very popular over that."

He fully believed stories that Maxwell had had his telephone tapped and had him followed. "That was pressure."

Mr Davies strongly denied the allegation by the American author, Seymour Hersh, that he had been involved in arms dealing, or that he had acted as an agent for the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad.

Asked if he had ever suspected that Maxwell had set him up, Mr Davies said: "Well, these things are possible, but I doubt it. If he had tried to, he would probably have done it far more successfully."

Chip shop to beat town ban

Fennant dies of heart attack

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Briton jailed

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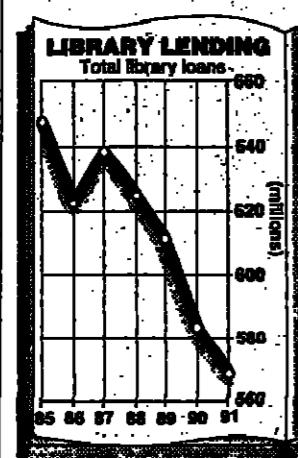
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Libraries worried that cuts endanger off-the-shelf wisdom



PUBLIC libraries are in their worst state since the system was founded almost 150 years ago, the Library Association says. Libraries are closing, reducing opening hours, trimming services and cutting jobs because of dwindling grants from local authorities.

On February 27 the association is staging Save Our Libraries Day, when the main political parties will be challenged in what they do about the libraries' difficulties. Tim Renton, the arts minister, has declined to attend, but Antonia Fraser, Margaret Drabbing, Anna Ford, Lord Willis and Joan Bakewell are among those lending their support. Another is Shirley Hughes, a children's author.

Closures, reduced hours and lost jobs are said to have brought the public library service to its lowest ebb. Simon Tait reports on the fight back

thor, with 13 titles on library shelves, borrowed 500,000 times last year. She believes that the decline of libraries puts the quality of the media and our understanding of the outside world at risk.

"This campaign is to ask if that is what we really want, and to suggest what we do something about it before it's too late," she said.

"By using the libraries from a very early age, children learn to concentrate, they find out about things outside their own experience, and develop interests and

enquiring minds, and it informs how we as adults read newspapers. All this is in danger of being lost."

Under the Libraries and Museums Act of 1964 councils must maintain a comprehensive and efficient library service, and the arts minister has a statutory duty to supervise and improve the service. He can force a council to meet its obligation.

In this financial year 11 library branches have closed in Derbyshire, five in Hackney, east London, three in Greenwich, south

London, three in Kirklees, West Yorkshire, two in Manchester and one in Sandwell, West Midlands. More worrying, according to George Cunningham, the Library Association's chief executive, are cuts in opening hours.

In 1974, 229 libraries were open 60 hours a week or more; now only 18 are. The number of books borrowed has fallen from 648 million in 1985 to 568 million last year.

Last June, the Library Association accused Mr Renton of "presiding over a savage decline" in the service, and threatened to take him to court to answer for an alleged breach of his statutory duty.

Mr Renton has shown that he is

prepared to use his power. "Libraries should not bear a disproportionate share of any cuts, and there is no evidence that any local authority is in breach of its statutory responsibilities, with one exception," his spokesman said.

The exception is Derbyshire, where 11 libraries were closed in October 1990. Mr Renton let his displeasure be known and an independent local enquiry was set up, which reported in December.

It said that eight of the libraries should not have closed, and a ninth, in the Derby suburb of Littleover, should be replaced with a bigger one. Mr Renton has asked the Derbyshire authorities when the report is to be implemented and, if not satisfied, he is prepared to order the authority to implement it.

Local authorities are being squeezed. Manchester needs to save £45 million this year to avoid poll tax capping. Its theatre and library service has had grant cuts of £1.2 million and £500,000 in the past two years and has closed two branches in this financial year. Manchester Central Library now closes every Thursday.

Liz Phelan, deputy director in charge of Manchester's libraries, said: "This is a great sadness to us, but we have been one step ahead of other authorities in the area who are facing their problems now. Next year it will be their turn."

Vital scientific facts about stains on murdered girl's clothing not disclosed, appeal judges told

Proof of innocence 'hidden from trial'

BY MICHAEL HORNELL

A MAN has spent nearly 16 years in prison for the murder of a schoolgirl which he could not have committed, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Scientific evidence "pointed irresistibly" to the innocence of Stefan Kiszkó, a former Inland Revenue clerk, because he was incapable of producing the sperm which was found on the girl's clothing. The evidence was available at the time of the original trial but was not disclosed.

The victim, Lesley Molseed, aged 11, disappeared from her home in Rochdale in October 1975 and her body was found on nearby moors at Windy Hill. She had been abducted and stabbed to death while on an errand. Kiszkó, aged 40, who is of

Yugoslav extraction, was convicted at Leeds crown court in July 1976 and an appeal was rejected two years later.

But his case was referred back to the Court of Appeal by the Home Secretary after a campaign by Mr Kiszkó's mother and Justice, the organisation which investigates miscarriages of justice. Mr Kiszkó, a single man, is being held for treatment for schizophrenia brought on by his ordeal at Prestwick Hospital, Manchester, to where he was bailed by the court last December pending appeal.

Lesley's father, Fred Anderson, and her mother, April Molseed, who has remarried, were in court. Lesley's married sister, Julie Crabbe, was also there. Mr Kiszkó's counsel, Stephen Sedley, QC, told

Parents expect retreat by governors

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA
EDUCATION REPORTER

PARENTS at Stratford school, east London, believe that the group of governors opposing the head teacher is in retreat and that the dispute over the school's management will end soon, the chairman of the parent-teacher association said yesterday.

Anthony Scavett, chairman of the new association, said that he was furious at revelations in *The Times* yesterday that a group of prospective governors planned to award themselves high salaries after the school opted out of local authority control. It's hard to imagine people would behave in this way," he said.

The association is writing to all parents during the half term break this week, inviting them to attend a meeting at the school on March 2. The association will reiterate its call for the resignation of four governors who are opposed to the head teacher Anne Snelling.

Mr Scavett said that parents supported Mrs Snelling and were optimistic that the dispute would be resolved soon.

The National Association of Head Teachers, which intends to sue two of the governors over their allegations that Mrs Snelling slapped one of them, will hold a press conference today explaining the grounds for its action.

Leading article, page 13

Ewing: 'Queues to send waste to Scotland'

SNP drive to combat 'nuclear laundry'

BY KERRY GILL

THE Scottish National Party yesterday launched its campaign for a nuclear free Scotland with a warning that the country was in danger of becoming an "international nuclear laundry".

Alex Neil, in charge of the SNP's publicity, joined Margaret Ewing, MP for Moray, and Dick Douglas, MP for Dunfermline West, to unveil a poster to be displayed on sites between central Scotland and the north along the route taken by nuclear waste convoys as they travel to Dounreay on the northern coast. The poster says: "Every day 520 English MPs dump on Scotland — including nuclear waste."

Mrs Ewing, the party's parliamentary leader, said that Westminster was trying to turn Scotland into a dumping ground for nuclear waste and nuclear weapons. "Last week's news that a German government working party is considering the Dounreay disposal solution for 3,000 spent nuclear fuel rods only serves to emphasise that we will be turned into the nuclear dump of Europe unless Scots vote for independence now at the coming election," she said.

Foreign countries were queuing up to send waste to the north of Scotland for storage and reprocessing and the Dounreay management was touring around the world for contracts as an international nuclear laundry".

The nationalists claim that jobs in industries such as fishing and tourism depended on the perception that Scotland enjoyed a clean environment. Even the threat of a nuclear accident put that employment at risk, she said.

Mr Douglas, the SNP's defence spokesman, said Labour was frightened to draw attention to its policy of placing Trident submarines on the Clyde. "There is no majority in Scotland for these nuclear weapons."



Stefan Kiszkó with mother Charlotte, left, Lesley Molseed, top right, and sister Julie, below right

Sale bares secret lives of soldiers

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE defence ministry is to investigate how intimate details of servicemen's private lives were left in a surplus army filing cabinet.

Gordon Chamberlain, a former paratrooper who bought the cabinet in a job lot, was interviewed by ministry police yesterday.

The ministry says the documents were not classified; they were an index of other documents which contained information taken in confidence.

Mr Chamberlain says that allegations of sexual indiscretions and behavioural patterns among about 400 men and women serving with the Intelligence Corps and the Royal Corps of Signals was reported to be "in possession of women's clothing".

Revelations of sexual impropriety and alcohol abuse in Cyprus were made in 1984 during an investigation into espionage allegations against eight members of 9 Signal Regiment serving at a base near Ayios Nikolaos on the island. The eight men were all acquitted on charges under the Official Secrets Act, after a 107-day trial at the Old Bailey.

The Security Commission, which examined the background to the case, recommended that the defence ministry avoid posting young servicemen to such sensitive locations.

Keays behaved as 'woman scorned'

SARA Keays yesterday heard herself described during her High Court libel action as a vengeful "woman scorned".

She sat at the front of Court 13 as Desmond Browne QC, for the defence, quoted the restoration playwright William Congreve: "Heavn has no rage like law to harred turn'd. Nor Hell a fury, like a woman scorn'd."

Miss Keays, aged 44, whose 11-year affair with Cecil Parkinson ended in scandal in 1983, is suing New Woman magazine over an article which she claims portrayed her as a kiss-and-tell bimbo who wrote her book, *A Question of Judgement*, to make money and cause maximum damage to her former lover's reputation.

On the 11th day of the action, Mr Browne said she had "bitterly resented" Mr Parkinson staying in office after he issued a statement about their affair in 1983 when she was pregnant with their daughter Flora, now eight.

When she made a statement later that year — which led to Mr Parkinson's resignation as trade and industry secretary — newspapers described her as vengeful and a woman scorned. It was then

that Mr Browne quoted from Congreve's *The Mourning Bride*, written in 1697. Mr Browne told the jury: "It was hardly surprising, was it, that people spoke of her being vengeful. It was inevitable."

She had gone ahead with the statement at the time of the Conservative party conference, despite warnings about its effect, without allowing "the consequences for Cecil Parkinson to stand in her way".

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Luggage thief stole £300,000

A thief who posed as a wealthy passenger to steal property worth £300,000 from Heathrow airport luggage was jailed for three years yesterday. Geoffrey Senior, aged 21, an unemployed and homeless man, snatched expensive-looking suitcases from the baggage carousel in a domestic flight terminal, Isleworth crown court, west London, was told.

Dressed in a smart suit, he watched the carousel from a balcony then took the suitcases when few other people were around. He obtained the £300,000 worth of cash and valuables in a year.

By selling the valuables he gained a net total haul of £150,000 and spent it on food, clothing and expensive hotels. In one suitcase he found £7,000 in notes the court was told. His luck ran out when a policeman saw him with an airport trolley piled high with luggage.

Meat firm fire

Animal rights activists admitted responsibility for setting fire to four refrigerated lorries belonging to a Nottingham meat importing and processing company. Damage estimated at £100,000 was caused.

Woman raider

A woman attacked a male driver with a cash and coin £5 from his pocket, near Ford open prison, West Sussex. She was standing by a car with a flat tyre and flagged the driver down.

Cell rescues

Twenty remand prisoners at Highbury Corner magistrates' court, north London, had to be rescued from their cells when fire broke out.

Churchill suit

One of Winston Churchill's grey pinstripe suits is expected to make up to £1,500 at Christie's South Kensington on April 3. The label has his name and the date.

War echoes

A unexploded shell from the first world war has been made safe by an army bomb disposal squad after it was found in a cottage outhouse in Burton, Cumbria.

Dawn arrests

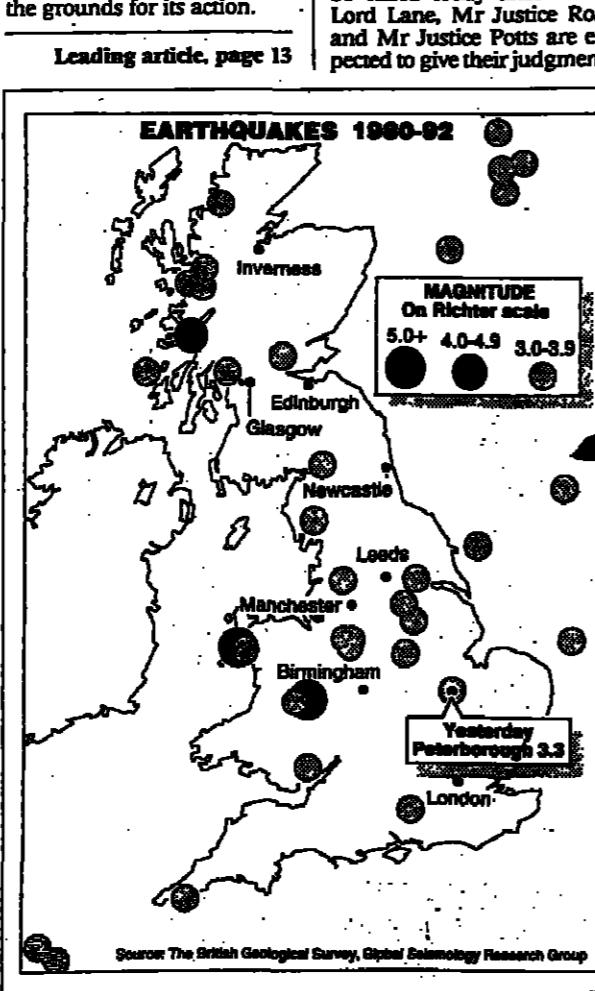
Fourteen people were arrested in dawn raids in Kempston, Bedfordshire, by police investigating burglaries in the area. Property valued at £10,000 was recovered.

Child escapes

Two men in an Austin Metro car with teddy bear stickers on the window tried to abduct a girl aged seven in a Coventry street. She struggled free and the men drove off.

Green matches

Bryant and May is selling its first environmentally friendly matches from this week.



Earthquake hits England but it's no great shakes

NICK NUTTALL finds that Britain's earth tremors have never been highly rated

figure of 5.4 was recorded in North Wales. In Ireland there have been none above 3 in recent years.

Yesterday's incident, whose epicentre was south-east of the city, which has been fairly free of natural calamities. The last earthquake to hit the region directly was in 1750; it was estimated to have registered 4 on the Richter scale, according to Alice Walker of the British Geological Survey in Edinburgh.

Britain's highest known reading was in 1984 when a tranquill experience.

Geoff Ridgeway, Peterborough's mayor, took comfort in the city's stoic motto, Upon This Rock. "People have been startled and frightened but the main thing is that there has been no damage," Mr Ridgeway, a retired chartered engineer, said.

Martin Howe, the city's museum curator, said that if the city was built on a rock, it was only a spiritual one. "It is actually on two geological faults, the Tinneham Marham and the Peterborough fault, which can cause the land to lift and crack."

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HIV victims win payout as health tops election agenda

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HEALTH was pushed to the top of the electioneering agenda yesterday by all three main parties as the government announced £12 million compensation for people infected with the HIV virus as a result of blood transfusions and tissue transplants.

Seventy-four people, their infected spouses and children will get payments up to a maximum of £80,500 under what was seen as a government U-turn. In a Commons written answer William Waldegrave, the health secretary, said he had not accepted the argument for a general scheme of no-fault compensation, but had made a special case for HIV.

In 1990 John Major announced a £42 million scheme to help haemophiliacs infected with HIV through blood products. In recent weeks, however, health ministers have still insisted that the scheme would not be widened to non-haemophiliacs infected in the same way.

The payments, to be decided after ensuring that infection took place after treatment in the UK will be

£41,500 for each infant, £43,500 each for single adults, £52,000 for each married adult without dependent children, £80,500 each for infected people with dependent children, £23,500 for each adult infected spouse or partner of the blood or tissue recipient, £23,500 for each infected child who is married, and £21,500 for each unmarried infected child.

Labour yesterday produced a file of patients who had been forced to pay for operations, while the Liberal Democrats published their own health manifesto pledging, but not costing, a raft of expensive initiatives.

The Liberal Democrat proposals include raising NHS spending to cover health service growth, freezing and gradually reducing prescription costs and other health charges, improving health service pay, repairing capital stock, boosting health promotion and reforming medical training.

Paddy Ashdown, the party leader said the proposals had been costed but the figures would not be disclosed until

after the Budget on March 10. Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat health spokesman, denied that the spending pledges would result in higher taxes, and pointed to areas in the NHS, such as administration, where money could be saved. Mr Kennedy said the party would build on the best parts of the government reforms by devolving management to hospital level.

Policy on dismantling the internal market is confused. A Liberal Democrat government would abolish GP fundholding and NHS trusts, and strip commercialism from the market, says the document.

Mr Kennedy admitted that the 57 first-wave trusts would be able to retain some of their new freedoms, which would be extended later to all hospitals. Although trusts will lose their independent status and will not be able to sell their assets or set their own pay rates, they will be able to borrow from the private sector and run their own affairs with their own management boards.

Virginia Bottomley, the

health minister described Liberal Democrat health policy as "a masterpiece of muddled thinking", which had ducked the key issue of where the money was coming from.

Labour unveiled a poster of a 'youthful William Waldegrave, the health secretary, gowned and masked and wielding a surgeon's scalpel, beside the words: "Tory health policy — your money or your life".

Robin Cook, the shadow health secretary, produced letters from the victims of privatisation', which he claimed showed that only those who could pay would get treated under the Tories. The letters, from ten patients who paid for their operations, show that all would have had to wait months or years if they had not opted to pay. Mrs Bottomley dismissed Mr Cook's dossier as another "scare story".

Mr Cook welcomed the move to compensate HIV victims but said it could have been made four years ago before so many of those infected had died.



Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, talks to his Portuguese counterpart, Joao de Deus Pinto, before yesterday's European Co-operation meeting in Lisbon. In London MPs called on the European parliament not to delay a free trade zone in the 19 EC and the European Free Trade Association

countries. Concern was expressed about reports that MEPs are seeking to get the agreement for a European economic area referred back to the European Court. Tim Sainsbury, the trade minister, said he hoped the deal allowing freedom of movement for goods, services, capital and people

could come into force by January 1, 1993. "We would not want anything to obstruct this arrangement which is clearly to the benefit of Britain," he said. Joyce Quin, the Labour trade spokesman, also voiced fears about delays to the single market.

Aid victory, page 16

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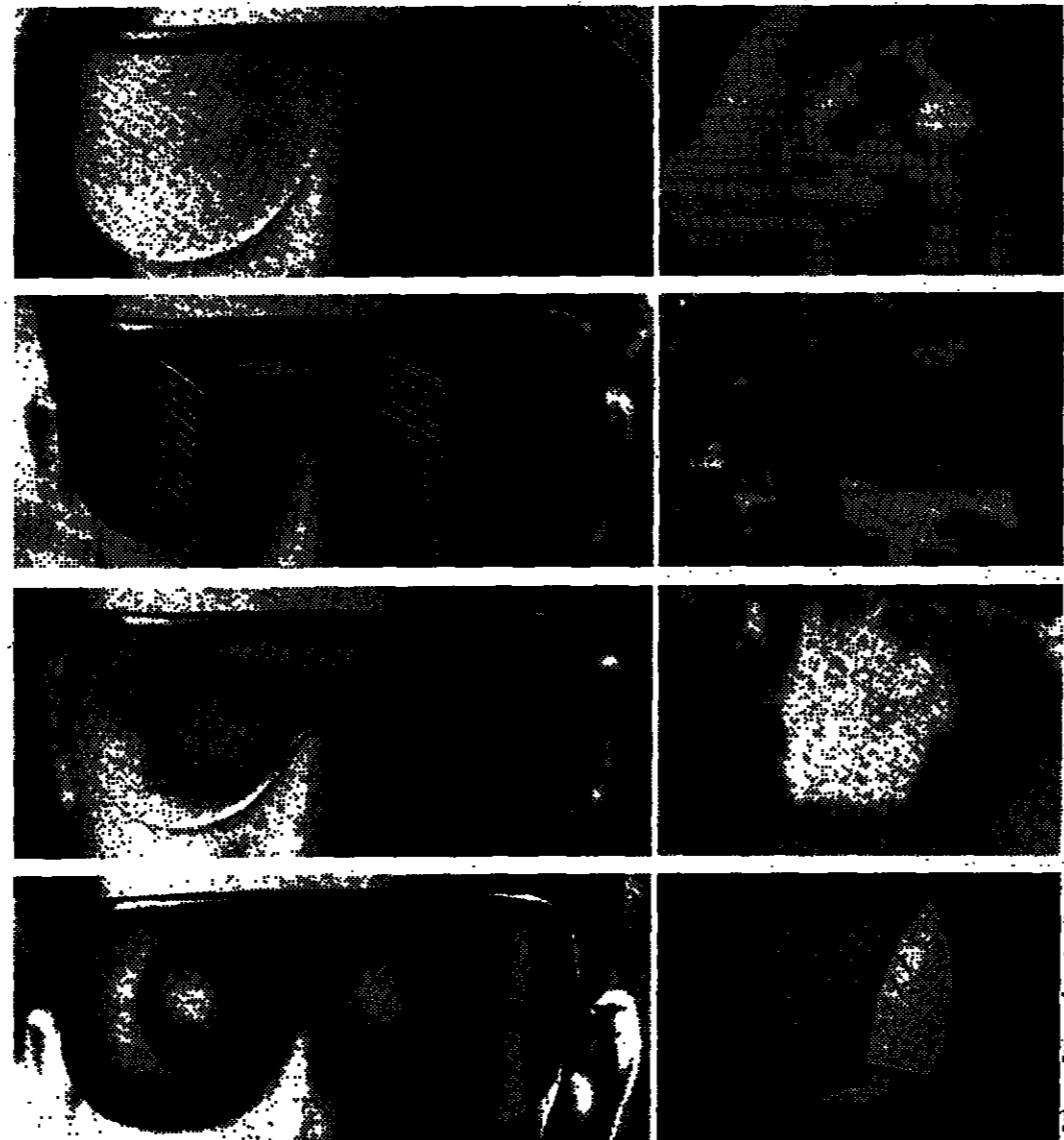
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AROUND THE LOBBY

Hurd gives democracy a boost

By NICHOLAS WOOD

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR remains a prisoner of the trade unions across a swathe of the nation's life, the Conservatives said yesterday as they fielded a team of six ministers to hammer home a central theme of the coming election campaign.

Health, education, local government and industrial relations were cited by ministers as areas where a Labour government would unravel the reforms of the past decade and put its union paymasters back in charge. Their words were illustrated with a new poster reminding voters that 22 shadow cabinet members were union sponsored and using a pair of handcuffs to illustrate the 'links between Labour and the unions'.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said the unions owned Labour 'lock, stock and block vote'. They controlled 90 per cent of the votes at the annual policy-making conference and 40 per cent of the votes to choose the party leader and parliamentary candidates. Labour policies are made by the unions, for the unions. Labour's policies for industrial relations, a minimum wage and training have been drawn up by the unions, for the unions.

The policy review committee that had drawn up plans to 'wreck' the union law reforms of the 1980s had been heavily influenced by senior officials of unions such as the transport workers, which had voted a planned Ford plant in Dundee.

Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, told a Conservative Central Office press conference that Gordon Brown, his shadow, had been 'bought' by the TUC. He had failed to repudiate in condemnation of inward Japanese investment as 'alien'.

Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, said that Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, was in the pocket of the National Union of Teachers. He had followed the NUT line in opposing the review body for teachers' pay. His party's 'love affair' with the unions explained why it was determined to abolish choice by scrapping grant-maintained schools, the assisted places scheme, city technology colleges and grammar schools.

Waste pulls its weight

By JOHN WINDER

THE old canard that parliament produces plenty of hot air and little else was firmly rebutted yesterday with the news that Westminster also amasses between two and four tonnes of waste paper each week.

Lady Blatch, an environment minister, told the House of Lords that the paper was taken away by a contractor, who was given it free of charge in return for removing all other rubbish. This represented good value, she said.

The matter of Westminster waste was raised by Lord Rippion of Hexham, who saw the possibility of a profit and recalled that in 1952 a minis-

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China clamp on dis

Peking opposes 1 plan

Jeng speaks market eco

Repression in rural Tibet

China widens clampdown on dissidents

By DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

CHINA has launched a "re-education" campaign in rural Tibet in an attempt to crush the independence movement. The crackdown comes as China is trying to improve its human rights image in the West, and the revelation coincides with the arrival in London of a Chinese delegation on human rights.

The campaign — unprecedented in the past ten years of unrest — has been initiated in areas previously assumed to be passive towards the regime. That appears to indicate that the independence movement is more widespread than previously believed, and speaks volumes about the insecurity of the government in Peking after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Only two years ago things were, officially, going swimmingly in the regions.

Countless meetings are being held throughout Tibet, not only in border areas, trying to reinforce the notion that what has happened in the former Soviet Union is only a temporary affair. The campaign has been initiated only through the regional media and came to light through the monitoring of Tibetan television and the *Tibet Daily*, the Communist party's mouthpiece in Lhasa. No mention of the crackdown has been made in Peking in the hope that it would not be noticed in the West.

The nervousness of the government can be seen easily in the detention of an electrician whose case emerged yesterday from information smuggled out of Lhasa. Dorje Wangdu, aged 33, has been sent without trial for three years' re-education through hard labour for merely discussing the possibility of wearing Tibetan national dress for a festival, which is not in itself an offence. He is also accused of giving protective amulets to the monks of Ganden monastery against the background of a campaign against those allegedly co-operating with foreign and hostile elements.

The news of his plight comes as a new report by Asia Watch and the Tibet Information Network shows that there are many more Tibetans in jail for political offences than the Chinese admit — 360 as against 50 convictions for "counter-revolutionary activity" admitted by the Chinese government since 1987. They are, however, only a fraction of the total number of Tibetans detained. Those serving administrative sentences without trial, for instance, are not regarded as convicts.

The mission to Britain is one of a series of visits to Western countries by the Chinese law institute and is led by Wang Jian, its director, who is accompanied by two other lawyers and Li Mingdi, deputy head of the foreign affairs ministry. The two-week visit takes in a trip to Northern Ireland and, after some resistance from the Home Office, various government institutions such as prisons. Among the non-governmental organisations to be visited will be Amnesty International.

The British hosts for the trip, the Great Britain-China Centre which is partly government-funded, believe that the lawyers are genuinely searching for new approaches to human rights in China after the barrage of criticism from the West, particularly in the wake of the mass killings of pro-democracy demonstrators in Peking in 1989. Although what the delegation sees and hears in Northern Ireland may later be used in China's defence, it will at least have the advantage of observing at first hand the relative openness in which such matters are discussed in Britain.

War claim
Tokyo: A group of 1,100 South Koreans have filed a suit against the Japanese government, demanding an apology and compensation for Tokyo's war atrocities. (Reuters)

Timor trial
Jakarta: Indonesia will put 13 civilians on trial in connection with a gun battle in East Timor in which at least 50 people died after the army opened fire at a funeral. (Reuters)

Hong Kong: China sends out a powerful signal of opposition to plans to turn Radio Television Hong Kong, the government broadcaster, into an independent station in the final years of colonial rule (Jonathan Braude writes)

Wang Fungchao, a senior official of Peking's Hong Kong and Macau affairs office, said the Hong Kong government would need its own station to broadcast its policies after China takes over the colony in 1997. His statement follows a burst of harshly worded commentaries in pro-Chinese newspapers here over the past few days. The China-backed *Wen Wei Po* suggested that the motive was to ensure that the newly independent broadcaster would be able to serve British interests after 1997.

The Hong Kong government says the main aim of broadcasting independence is to save taxpayers' money.

Suspects held

Hong Kong: Ninety-three Vietnamese boat people were remanded in custody for the third time when they appeared in court in connection with a riot at Shek Kong refugee camp on February 3 in which 24 died. (AFP)

War claim

Tokyo: A group of 1,100 South Koreans have filed a suit against the Japanese government, demanding an apology and compensation for Tokyo's war atrocities. (Reuters)

Timor trial

Jakarta: Indonesia will put 13 civilians on trial in connection with a gun battle in East Timor in which at least 50 people died after the army opened fire at a funeral. (Reuters)

Deng speaks up for market economy

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON
IN PEKING

DENG Xiaoping, the senior Chinese leader, has predicted that within the next 20 years Hong Kong's Communist neighbour, Guangdong province, will become Southeast Asia's fifth "little dragon", challenging the economic miracles of Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea, and Hong Kong itself.

Mr Deng made the statement during his recent rare tour of southern China. It is believed that the increasingly reclusive 87-year-old leader went south to spread his message that rapid economic liberalisation is the only way for China to survive.

Guangdong, with its booming provincial capital, Canton, and its capitalist-style special economic zone, Shenzhen, is the success story of Mr Deng's policies of economic liberalisation combined with tight control of political dissent.

Mr Deng may also have been making the point that the economic success of the "four little dragons" was achieved in the absence of Western-style democracy.

Twelve years ago, he became the first leader of a

Deng: success story in booming Canton

socialist country to advocate market-orientated economic reform. On his recent tour, he said China must continue along that path for the next hundred years, according to *Wen Wei Po*, a newspaper published in Hong Kong and controlled by Peking.

Mr Deng now holds no official positions, has all but given up public appearances, and says he has handed over the reins of power to younger men such as Jiang Zemin, the party general secretary. But his reforms are believed to be under attack from economic hardliners, and observers say he was prodded into speaking out in public.



Satisfaction: Mick Jagger leaving a Tokyo airport hotel lobby last night after the justice ministry granted him special permission to enter Japan

Japan relents and allows family man, 48, to enter

By JOE JOSEPH

MICK Jagger, the Rolling Stones singer, waiting all day at Tokyo airport yesterday and was finally allowed into Japan last night when the justice ministry granted him entry to promote his film *Free Jack*.

Jagger, aged 48, has been on a Japanese immigration blacklist since being convicted in Britain of possessing marijuana in 1969. He was refused entry to Tokyo in 1973 for the same reason, but was allowed in for solo concerts in 1988 and the 1990 Stones tour.

Jagger did not think he still needed a special entry permit from Japan because of his marijuana days. Before his journey, he had gone to the trouble of enquiring whether he was clear to enter, and had been told he was.

Entry to Japan can be trying even for those foreigners without past drug convictions. All foreigners must enter through the "aliens" gate at Tokyo's Narita airport and, if they are planning to stay for a while, must have their fingerprints taken.

ed. Linda, his wife, said: "People certainly are different out here. They take it so very seriously."

While Jagger was kicking his heels at Tokyo airport he might have consoled himself with the thought that being barred because of a 23-year-old drugs offence would probably not rank as the strongest shock he had ever had in Japan. More remarkable must surely have been the sight of Keith Richards on stage at 6.30pm sharp during the Stones' 1990 tour.

That is the starting time for Tokyo entertainment, from concerts to the late film show. It allows time for everyone to get home afterwards to a suburb two hours' train ride away. The sponsors who put up the cash that lures big names to Japan insist on punctuality. Bands who want to be asked to come again comply. British fans of the Rolling Stones had always assumed that at 6.30pm Richards was just about finishing breakfast.

Philip Howard, page 12

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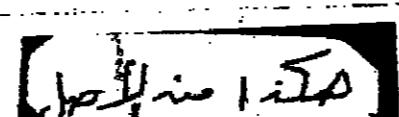
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TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18 THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18 1992

Killing of Sheikh Moussawi leaves peace talks 'down but not out'



THE fragile Middle East peace process remained intact yesterday, but increasingly remote from realities on the ground as the region braced itself for the inevitability of more violence between Israel and pro-Iranian guerrilla factions in Lebanon.

"The mechanism of the process which began in Madrid has survived, but what little spirit of compromise that existed between the two camps has been further eroded," said one European diplomat. "If the talks were likened to a boxer, he is down but has not yet been counted out."

Even as tens of thousands of mourners were vowing bloodthirsty revenge for the

The latest explosions of violence in the Middle East have weakened what were already meagre hopes for the region, Christopher Walker writes from Cairo

aerial ambush on Sheikh Abbas Moussawi, David Levy, Israel's foreign minister, was telling a Knesset committee that Israel would attend the next round of peace talks in Washington on February 24, but would insist on holding any subsequent negotiations closer to home.

Douglas Hogg, the British foreign minister in Washington, which took the unusual step of issuing a communiqué on a Sunday in which spokesman Richard Boucher called on

both sides to exercise "maximum restraint". Britain, like France, refused to single out either Israel or the Arabs for blame. A pessimistic note was sounded in Spain, where Francisco Fernández, the foreign minister, said European Community countries had never had much optimism about improvements in the Middle East. "The little we had is eroded by reality," he said.

Uncertainty surrounded the timing of Sunday's decision by Syria and Lebanon to amend the Washington meeting after boycotting multilateral talks in Moscow. Arab diplomatic circles assumed it was taken before news of the Lebanon ambush circulated, but that it

would remain unaltered. Even before the latest violence began with the axing to death of three Israeli troops on Saturday, an attack claimed by West Bank-based Palestinian radicals and widely supported in the Arab world, announcement of Israeli elections for June 23 had eliminated any hopes of progress of substance in the talks before then.

For many Arabs, the imminence of US presidential elections had also reduced slender hopes that enough US pressure might be imposed on Israel's Likud government to bring action on the formula of land for peace — considered the only way forward for the talks whatever their venue. "I am

afraid Washington will become another platform for propaganda and little else," a Western official said.

In announcing their willingness to go to Washington, the Palestinians said even before the latest explosion of violence that there was no hope of talks with the Israelis dealing with matters of substance — such as autonomy in the occupied territories — until there was a halt to the building of Jewish settlements.

The chief architect of the peace process, James Baker, the US secretary of state, has always seen a danger of the talks being buffeted by acts of violence in the Middle East. But he has hoped that, even if progress was at a

PEOPLE

Madonna 'sex hype' attacked

Cliff Richard has described Madonna as "one of the biggest hypies ever" and "a poor man's Marilyn Monroe". In a radio interview for the BBC, he condemned her for "taking advantage" of her sexuality.

"I could do a nude show now and I would be the biggest thing that ever happened in Britain," said the 51-year-old singer. He told presenter Mike Read: "I have never met her, of course — she might be the nicest person in the world — but it would be tarnished for me."

"We are all sexual animals, but to me there is more sex in Olivia Newton John, just because she looks good, than any video I've seen of Madonna." But he added: "I do like some of the records."

Racism, fanaticism and anti-Semitism is on the rise in many nations, according to Elie Wiesel, survivor of the Holocaust and Nobel Peace Prize winner. "It is to me a source of anguish," Mr Wiesel, aged 63, said at a peace prize forum in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Mother Teresa, aged 87, is doing "fairly well" in Salvador Mundi hospital in Rome and her doctor, Vincenzo Billotta, said he hopes she can return to India soon. He denied reports that the Nobel Peace Prize winner was critically ill.

King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden crashed his car into a fir tree in the Swedish motor rally on but emerged unscathed. The king was driving (not competing) on a special stage of the world championship rally when he drove a four-wheel-drive Mitsubishi off the road on an icy bend near Karlstad.



Bearers of grief: weeping Muslim mourners carry the coffins of Sheikh Moussawi and his family through the narrow streets of Beirut

Queen visits Australia as republicans clamour

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Queen arrives in Sydney today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the country's premier city, aware of a gathering tide of opinion that the nation's figurehead should be a native.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were collected by an Australian aircraft in London yesterday to take them on their first visit to the country, since 1988, and the twelfth of the reign. Australia is one of 16 Commonwealth countries and former British dominions that retain the Queen as head of state and is the loudest in its demands to sever that last remaining link.

The Queen and the Duke will spend a week in Australia and will visit Canberra and Adelaide.

At a conference on constitu-

Cannibal serial killer gets life

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN MILWAUKEE

JEFFREY Dahmer, the American serial killer, was sentenced yesterday to life in prison without parole after telling his judge: "I take all the blame for what I did."

Though Wisconsin has no death penalty, Dahmer, told the judge he really wished he could be put to death for the "holocaust" he created by killing and dismembering 15 boys and young men to fulfill his sexual desires. He also ate parts of his victims.

By sentencing Dahmer to 15 consecutive life terms, Judge Laurence C. Gram of the Milwaukee county circuit court made it impossible for him ever to be eligible for parole. He handed down the sentence after hearing dramatic, in one case hysterical,

pleas from relatives of Dahmer's victims and from the murderer himself.

"Your honor, it is over now," Dahmer told the judge.

"This has never been a case of trying to get free. I never wanted freedom. Frankly, I wanted death for myself."

Dahmer, who pleaded guilty to killing 15 young men and boys and was found sane by a jury, told Judge Gram that he has turned to God since his arrest on July 22. "I should have stayed with God," he said in a monotone voice. "I tried and I failed, and created a holocaust."

Speaking publicly for the first time about the killings, he said he hoped God would forgive him, because he knew

Janet Daly, page 12

Democrats and Republicans step up the campaign pace for crucial first primary in New England

Tsongas makes eyes at voters

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

DRIVERS sound their horns in support for gangs of placard-waving youths at every crossroads. Leaflets pile up beneath every parked car's windscreen wipers. There are posters on every street light, advertisements on every airwave and badges in every lapel.

Candidates surrounded by scrums of television crews are ubiquitous and in offices, shops and homes throughout New Hampshire the talk is politics. The first and most important primary of America's presidential election reaches its feverish end to day and, thanks to a single woodchip, Paul Tsongas, on the Democratic side, can expect a famous victory.

The aforesaid chip flew into Mr Tsongas's eye during a factory visit last week and infected it. He was forced to switch from contact lenses to professional spectacles for the final television debate on Sunday night. The funny-looking little Massachusetts man instantly acquired the stature and gravitas he had hitherto lacked and dashed his Democratic rivals' last faint hopes of catching him.

"Those glasses are great," said Rick Zinno, watching



Touch and go: Democratic hopefuls Bill Clinton, left, and Bob Kerrey getting the final dabs of make-up before a debate in Goffstown

least of the alternative evils. He revelled in the attacks. This was much better than being "patted on the head", Mr Tsongas said later. Yesterday's polls showed Mr Tsongas leading Bill Clinton by margins of between 7 per cent and 20 per cent.

Mr Clinton, his campaign stalled by charges of draft-dodging and adultery, had complained at the weekend that so much dirt had been thrown his way that he felt like a "one-man landfill". For the Arkansas governor the debate was a chance to refocus on political issues but as he fumed off policies in his flat southern monotone one began to feel another scandal might do him more good.

One big unresolved question is whether Mr Kerrey can beat Tom Harkin, a fellow senator, and thus sustain his candidature, but both are nervously watching the "Draft Cuomo" write-in

for that could yet put the

New York governor third. Polls give Mr Cuomo 6 to 9 per cent, even though he is not a candidate.

He ensured continued prominence for the "Mario Scenario" on Sunday by saying he would have campaigned in New Hampshire had he been able to resolve New York's budget crisis. When Mr Harkin mentioned Mr Cuomo in the debate, Mr Kerrey groaned.

TOADS TO BE ASSURED OF

KEEPING OFFICE AND INFLUENCE FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

They lost the first battle when Mr Buchanan decided to stand against the president in the first place. They lost the second by allowing him to build support, virtually unchallenged, until he is now almost certain to fight on beyond New Hampshire. The centrepieces of the Buchanan campaign have been opposition to "big government" and an American withdrawal from the rough-and-tumble of international peacekeeping. Linked to both has been the idea that Americans should be less generous to other people — particularly to the Japanese, but also to the Israelis and the Europeans.

For the White House, however, there is really only one issue: the fragile coalition of separate interests that keeps George Bush in his job. How will Patrick Buchanan, the Republican challenger, disrupt the president's support, and what must the Bush machine do to keep the upstart at bay? So far it has been a chastening experience for the people in Washington

defeat. "The Ford analogy is very much on our minds," a senior Bush campaign aide said last week.

But it seems to have entered senior minds rather late. Everything in this political year has happened late, because of the Gulf war and the delayed start to the campaign. The result has been to benefit those who are bold and sure on their feet.

The president now has to go to the Southern primaries almost certainly facing continued right-wing challenges.

The president's time in office has done nothing to improve his ability to communicate with voters.

Co-alignment is a sub-

to protectionists and free-

traders, isolationists and

internationalists, the racially

guilty and the racially aggres-

sive. Once a party's internal

alliances begin to crumble, it

can soon become a dust pile.

Ronald Reagan's allies re-

built the Republicans from

the wreckage of Barry Gold-

water's massive 1964 defeat.

Mr Buchanan is not afraid of another Republican rout if he can help put his party back on his track.

Grand old man

Philip Howard on Mick Jagger's new role as grandfather

Is there life after grandfatherhood? In certain societies and epochs, men are revered for their grey beards and trots of grandchildren. In Britain, the Victorians preferred to have grand old men with silvery beards as their politicians and stars. China is still run by a gerontocracy. The Supreme Soviet used to consist entirely of granite-faced grandfathers in baggy double-breasted suits. Look what happened when it booted out the grandfathers.

But in the Western world, with its recent cult of youth, although the grandchildren may well be little darlings, their arrival can come as a shock. Few men in Britain today are wholeheartedly sincere in their thanks for the congratulations on the arrival of their first grandchild. When the grandfather in the case is Mick Jagger, it is a severe culture shock. The news that his daughter Jade is to produce Jagger's first grandchild comes as a grotesque thunderbolt.

Jagger was one of the Sixties celebrities who invented the cult of youth. He was the long-haired lout whom a generation of middle-aged fathers feared and loathed, while their daughters screamed for him, and their sons tried to imitate him. His songs were immature and rebellious. But now "Brown Sugar" has become "Grey Sugar" and "Street-fighting Man", "Street-fighting Gran".

Those who make their names as bohemia or brilliant youths should die young, like James Dean, or fade away into decent bourgeois obscurity, like Shakespeare, Marilyn Monroe would not be the icon of the century, with a dozen picture books about her published every year, if she had lived to be a grandmother, trying to make a new career in Hollywood horror films. Dylan Thomas and Dylan would not have kept their ever-living charm if they had not died in their thirties, before the age of grandfatherhood. Shelley would have become a bore if he had lived to be a grandparent, and written about Medusa instead of plausibly about Adonis. Nancy Astor got over the problem by stating: "I refuse to admit that I am more than 52, even if that does make my sons illegitimate." Wordsworth stands as an awful warning: the radical young hero who outlived his fiery promise to become an old bore.

We grandfathers are still capable of worthy work. Leonardo painted the Mona Lisa when he was older than Jagger, although he never showed any inclination to a grandfather's role. Verdi wrote *Falstaff* at an age to be a great-grandfather. At 90, Sophocles was taken to court on grounds of insanity by his children and grandchildren, who were tired of waiting for their inheritance. He read his most mysterious tragedy, *Oedipus at Colonus*, to the Areopagus, and was acquitted.

When he was banned at the weekend from entering Japan because of his drug conviction of 23 years ago, Jagger still showed signs of the rebellious old image. On that occasion the editor of *The Times* wrote a famous leading article entitled "Who Breaks a Butterfly upon a Wheel?" But yesterday the Japanese justice ministry relented, and let him in. The Japanese have recognised that Jagger has taken the Gladstonian rather than the Byronic road to immortality. He has even been seen consulting about Britain's day of music with the Minister for the Arts, who looks like the nicest sort of grandfather, even though he has not yet achieved that eminent status. *The Times* had better prepare a leader headed "There's Life in the Old Dog Yet". And Jagger can have his fans doing terrible things with their zimmerframes in the aisles with his grandfather "Gouty Jack Flash".

We may not comprehend the mind of a serial killer, but that does not mean he is mad, argues Janet Daley

As a general rule, sane men do not kill people in order to have sex with their dead bodies and then go on to eat the corpses. Does it follow that men who do so are insane by definition? Jeffrey Dahmer is a murderer, a necrophiliac and a cannibal.

By all the rules of modern common sense, he cannot have committed such acts and be rational; his behaviour is *ipso facto* that of a madman. And so the verdict reached in Milwaukee, that he is sane, must be absurd.

This assumption relies on the received wisdom of contemporary social ethics that there are only two possibilities: either people stay within shouting distance of normal moral standards, or they are insane. By which we must mean (if we are to mean anything) that they are not responsible for their actions.

For, in a court of law, insane does not simply mean abnormal, or even what the man in the street means by mad. It means that the accused had no choice but to do what he did, that his actions were not committed in free will but out of technical compulsion. Which brings us to the problem with

defining Jeffrey Dahmer as insane simply on the basis of his acts. If a grotesquely aberrant crime must always be regarded as mad, so relieving its perpetrator of moral responsibility, haven't we dismantled the idea of evil?

Well, you might argue, perhaps we have, and what of it? What place has a medieval concept like absolute wickedness in an enlightened society anyway? What should concern us are the causes of abnormality which could lead to a cure, or at least a preventative, for this sort of behaviour. What matters is not blame and punishment so much as ensuring that such things do not happen again. Individuals who carry out truly monstrous acts should be seen as atoms in some mechanistic causal process which propels them into their actions. It becomes our responsibility to examine that process and discover the point at which the chain of inevitability might have been broken.

There are people (many of whom are employed in the social services) who would apply this argument to all forms of crime. For them, joyriding and mugging are simply proof of social deprivation, and violence is caused by economic hopelessness. (Labour politicians are fond of talking about the need "to tackle the root causes" of crime, so shifting the moral responsibility from the delinquent to the government.)

No criminal, according to this analysis, is responsible, in the pure old-fashioned sense, for his own criminality. He is simply a product of social forces, over which he has no control. Guilt

itself is defined out of existence and the impulse to punish becomes no more than a primeval desire for revenge. But even people who reject this extreme argument tend to fall for the version of it which says of a man like Jeffrey Dahmer that he must be insane.

In the Dahmer trial, the defence called on a small army of psychiatrists to explain precisely the sense in which Dahmer was not responsible for his behaviour. There are two ways, it seems, in which people can be deprived of free will by insanity. One is that they simply do not understand what they are doing is wrong. This is known in psychiatric

jargon as a cognitive defect: what is lacking is knowledge of right and wrong. The other is called volitional failing, the accused understands that he was doing wrong but was unable to control his compulsion.

In the first case, a criminal would presumably be quite unmoved by being caught or observed (since he sees nothing wrong in what he does) and would, when apprehended, guilelessly display the deruris of his crimes to the police.

Dahmer, like most serial killers, was not like this. He was skilful and manipulative enough to conceal his progress through 15 victims, all carefully chosen so that their disappearances would be likely to go unnoticed. Not only did he know himself to be doing wrong, but he was sufficiently in control to be calculatedly covert. His "madness" lay, according to the expert witnesses, in his uncontrollable desire to commit this sort

of act. But what is an uncontrollable desire? Could we not say that any urge not resisted was, by definition, uncontrollable? We do not let rapists off because they gave in to desires they may have felt were uncontrollable. Is it just that Dahmer's desires were so out of the ordinary, that we assume that they must have been uncontrollable because otherwise he could never have brought himself to commit those acts? But those acts were the ones that he desired: they may have been unusual, but to him they were not repulsive, and therefore it did not take uncontrollable desires to overcome any repugnance.

He did what he wanted to do, over and over, masterfully avoiding detection for a long period. As it happened, what he wanted to do was so bizarre that we are led to assume that such things could only be done in the grip of irresistible compulsion. But who is to say whether our own compulsions are more easily resisted than his? Perhaps simply that we are compelled to do is more acceptable, and we are more determined to hold out against our less acceptable fantasies.

Last post for the Red Army?

Russia's forces are facing collapse after 200 years, says Martin Ivens



Central Europe's policeman since 1812: crack Cossack troops strike fear into French lines during the Napoleonic War

The Russian army is retreating to Moscow again. The enemy this time is more deadly than Napoleon: it is nationalism. The ancient foe of the empire of the Tsars and the commissars has compelled first Mikhail Gorbachev and now his democratic successor, Boris Yeltsin, to withdraw their conscript hordes, at least momentarily, from central Europe and even the western provinces of the old Soviet Union, to the east bank of the River Don.

The long, withdrawing roar of empire is heard from a desperate officer corps which needs to preserve the unity of the multinational state and its army. The empire is their sole means of support, their entire *raison d'être*. But hows of anguish in the East are matched by a sigh of relief in central Europe and the West. Yet the Russian army has been a force for stability too. It was a brutal and repressive force, but from 1815 to 1855 and from 1945 to 1990, the Russian army set middle Europe in concrete, with often tragic consequences.

The huge Russian army—in its many guises, Imperial, Red or Soviet—has haunted the dreams of Western statesmen for more than two centuries. Russia has been the bugbear of true radicals everywhere, from Marx to Hitler. During the 1848 revolution in Budapest, Russia revealed itself as "the gendarme of Europe"; by the time of the Hungarian uprising against Communist rule it had become "the gendarme of the socialist camp".

The Russian Empire", as the Czech historian Milan Svankmajer put it, "is in reality constantly exposed to the danger of disintegration, which can be prevented only by a strong central government... Civil rights threaten not just the individual and peripheral interests of multinational empires, but their very existence". Svankmajer, whose country is a highly interested party, observed that Russia had the role of gendarme forced on her "because the evolution of Europe since the end of the 18th century has persistently threatened the very foundations of its existence. The reverse, of course, is also true."

It was after Peter the Great's remarkable victory over the Swedish army of Charles XII, the best led of the day, at Poltava in 1709, that Russian armies became a constant feature of European war. By 1730 the Russians were at the River Neckar in Germany. Frederick the Great, however, scoffed at the Russians as barbarians. His Prussian military machine, which was the most advanced in Europe, owed beneath the blows of the dogged Russian peasant army, although Frederick won in the end. By the time of the War of the Coalition against revolutionary France, Marshal Suvorov was leading his troops from Italy into the fastnesses of the Alps.

But it was the entry of Tsar Alexander I into Paris ahead of an army which had fought its way across Europe and defeated Na-

polon that left the indelible impression of Russian military might. "Vive l'Empereur Alexandre", wisely shouted the Parisians as the Autocrat of all the Russias marched into the city behind his immensely tall guard of Cossacks. A Russian army of 800,000 men dominated the mainland of Europe in 1814 as overwhelmingly as the Royal Navy ruled the waves.

Alexander claimed he was just a simple soldier, but it was his martial brother Nicholas I, rather than the chattering mystic who perfected the system of autocracy, secret police and cultural control. "Gentlemen, saddle your horses, there is a revolution in France," the Tsar is said to have cried when news of the revolution in France came to Moscow. Palmerston noted that again it was Britain and Russia, the two peripheral

powers of Europe, who stood upright.

The Tsar's horses rode for Vienna and Budapest. Nicholas dispatched three Russian armies to the aid of another, multinational empire, the Habsburg. He ended the "springtime of nations" in 1848 with a Russian permafrost. The Germans, too, were brought to heel. Diplomatic threats forced the Paulskirche parliament to abandon dreams of Deutschland, gross or klein.

Yet because Russian autocracy in its 18th and 19th-century forms rested on a backward social and economic structure, it could compete with the West only at times of slow technological innovation, allowing the nation to deploy its huge reserves of manpower. "We cannot deceive ourselves any longer," groaned Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolay-

evich amid the disaster of the Crimean war. "We are both weaker and poorer than the first-class powers, and furthermore poorer not only in material but also mental resources".

Advised by foreign technical experts and equipped with the same muzzle-loaders as other European powers, the Russian army of 1814 was an overwhelming numerical force. During the Crimean war, however, the brave Tsarist soldier was equipped with a flintlock with a range of 200 yards; his enemy had a rifle capable of hitting targets at a thousand yards. The British and French fleets were able to transport their troops from home to the front more quickly than the Tsar could bring his from Moscow. Why? There were no railways south of Moscow, and horse-drawn carts had to plough

she is still nowhere near old enough to be a grandparent. But she was clearly upset by the singer's Japanese difficulties. "Sometimes it seems there's been absolutely no progress," she sighs.

• The Joint Matriculation Board says A-level students are guilty of using too many clichés and colloquialisms. Such candidates, the report declares, "are simply shooting themselves in the foot". Isn't there a saying about people in glass houses?

Air affair
THE Tories seem to have won the battle for the skies already. While Central Office has hired a BAe 146 jet for the election known as "Blue Leader One" or "John's Jet", Labour and the Liberal Democrats have commissioned more humble aerial transport.

Paddy Ashdown, abandoning the Liberal Democrats' ancient battle bus for the first time, has turned to Dan Air for a 15-year-old de Havilland turbo-prop. The 48-seater, dubbed "The Bird of Liberty", after the party logo, usually ferries package holidaymakers to the Costas. Paddy Ashdown's office admits it is not the most luxurious plane in the hire market. "We wanted one like the Tories, but we couldn't afford it," they say with disarming honesty. Yet the Lib Dems intend to charge journalists £4,500 per head for the trip, half as much again as the two main parties.

After its disastrous performance on the runway in 1987, Labour is coy about its choice of plane this time. But Neil Kinnock will be hoping for an improvement on "Red Rose One", the early 1950s Britannia which let the leader down so badly last time, breaking down twice in the first two days of the campaign.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

The revelation that Tony Benn's Holland Park archive contains diaries he kept from the age of nine has sent tremors of excitement through London's literary and political establishments. This column is delighted to have secured the rights to the first week of these diaries, kicking off on Master Benn's ninth birthday.

April 3, 1934: A delegation of friends arrives at my tea party. "Happy Birthday to You," they say.

Please, I beg of you, let's not bring personalities into it, I reply. The fact that it is my birthday is irrelevant in the broader historical perspective. It could just as easily be anyone else's, though of course under the present system each individual is permitted — not that it has ever been voted upon, mind, oh no, they wouldn't let that happen — to have only one birthday per year. So let's take our own destinies in our hands and try to stick to the larger issue of birthdays as a whole, shall we?

I then open "my" presents. One of them is a book containing very moving rhymes about the politically oppressed, such as Little Jack Horner, forced by the establishment of the day to sit in a corner, and Mr and Mrs Spratt and the very real difficulties they encountered in the field of nutrition. Old Jack Spratt, a marvellous old figure, solid working class and proud of it, is fondly remembered as a

leading figure in the great Lean movement of the last century.

April 4: A day at the beach. While the others build castles, I attempt to create a blueprint for satisfactory workers' accommodation. The tide comes in and wipes it out. Anyone in public life today who attempts to build sandcastles along Marxist principles runs such a risk.

The British establishment has no wish to see workers' sandcastles flourish, and it will not lift a finger to prevent the sea obliterating them.

April 5: A delegation of friends arrives to ask me to join a pane of the Armed Forces of the British Establishment versus Victims of Society's Injustice, Cops and Robbers as they choose to term it. I agree to support the side of the oppressed, and find myself bounded along with the other so-called robbers until caught. Frankly, the sanctioning of such behaviour reveals an awful lot about the sort of capitalist society we live in at present. I point this out to my colleagues, who are most interested, placing a bucket on my head as a gesture of appreciation.

April 6: In the school gymnasium, we are asked to hop on one foot from one end of the building to the other. "Don't you see?" I ask my colleagues. "It's their way of trying to make us forget how to use both feet at the same time! They know that once we're in the habit of hopping, we'll be unable to return to running or even walking — and they'll have us where they want

Frightening the cavalry

TO the utter disgust of the nation's military, four of Britain's best-known soldiers from two world wars will be the target of a bizarre protest on Thursday, which will allege they were homosexuals.

The statues in Whitehall of field marshals Haig, Kitchener, Montgomery and the Earl Mountbatten will be decked with pink garlands by the gay rights group Outrage. The protest is against attitudes to homosexuality in the armed forces, where it remains a court martial offence. The demonstration, to be addressed by the Labour MP Harry Cohen, has drawn a furious response from some of Britain's leading military figures.

Field Marshal Lord Carver says: "It is a ridiculous protest, which is in bad taste. It does nothing but harm to their cause. Our great soldiers are being run over in their graves: they face far worse on the battlefield."

Outrage, whose members include the film-maker Derek Jarman, claims to have documentary evidence to support the contention that the soldiers were gay. Kitchener had a long standing affair with Captain Oswald Fitzgerald, a Bengal Lancer who became his *amie de camp*, according to the writer Michael Ellman. Another author, Denis Winter, alleges that Haig married at 44 simply in order to cover up his sexuality when scandal threatened. The group claims "anecdotal evidence" about the other two soldiers, which has incensed General Sir John Hacken, who was wounded three times in the last war and knew both Montgomery and Mountbatten well. "It is unforgivable. But Mountbatten would have laughed at them, which is what we should do."



• Sponsors love television crime almost as much as the public. Rumpole of the Bailey is brought to us courtesy of Croft's port and Inspector Morse by Beamish stout. But what are we to make of Granada's new Kronenberg-sponsored Maigret? "Absolutely apid," it's a French premium lager for the French premium detective, says Granada's sponsorship controller, John Marchant. Few in Britain will realise that it is a French brew. Maigret himself seems to prefer a glass of vin rouge — and when that is not available, he is quite happy with a glass of plain Pilsner water.

Fist of refusal

FOLLOWING a verbal lashing by the Master of the Queen's Music, Andrew Lloyd Webber seems to have incurred the wrath of charity organisers at a primary school in Kent. When they asked him to donate a small gift for their charity draw, they were astonished to receive instead a somewhat uncharitable putdown from Lloyd Webber's personal assistant, claiming that since such thinkers had in the past been sold out at vast profit, the composer was not minded to help. Regrettably, in order to retain some control over affairs personal to Andrew Lloyd Webber and The Really Useful

Group, we have been forced to adopt this policy," says the letter.

"We were only hoping for a couple of tickets to raffle," says Sandy Breeze of the Cartwright and Kelsey School near Canterbury. Claire Taylor for Lloyd Webber's office shrugs off the children's disappointment. "There was an incident, since when he has decided to stop making such gifts to anyone."

Re-Release

MICK JAGGER may not be popular with Japanese immigration officials, but he is top of the guest list of those invited to mark the silver jubilee of the drugs charity Release. Jagger will be the guest of honour at the July "Release feast" marking the 25th anniversary of its first rally calling for the legalisation of cannabis, held in Hyde Park following his 1967 arrest. After the rally, Release set up its legal advice service which has been running ever since.

Anthony Scrimshaw QC, former chairman of the bar, will be a

I haven't been this high since Woodstock

guest, alongside Caroline Coon, who set up Release while studying at the Central School of Art, and without whom no trendy chatshow in the late 1980s would have been possible. A quarter of a century on, Ms Coon insists that unlike Jagger,



DEADLY DEBITS

If war is the extension of politics by other means, Clausewitz's dictum would today doubtless embrace assassination, shoot-to-kill, kidnapping, internment and other paraphernalia of modern "low intensity" conflict. The killings over the weekend in the Middle East and Northern Ireland may each be different in context and motivation. But the corpses are just as dead and their contribution to the peaceful resolution of conflict just as obscure.

Higher standards are expected of governments and their agents than of those who would subvert them. Whatever the sense of injustice felt by the IRA or Hezbollah or the PLO, their resort to violence is abhorrent. In reacting to this violence, both Britain and Israel make great play of their espousal of democracy and the rule of law: these are what legitimises their projection of power, into Ulster and into the territories bordering on Israel. The basis of their presence may be different in the two cases, but both states claim moral supremacy over those who contest their rule.

This means that the killings in South Lebanon and Coalisland cannot be excused as equal and opposite to, for instance, recent IRA outrages or the murder of Israeli soldiers in their beds last Friday. Neither reaction appears to have involved soldiers shooting in self-defence nor even in hot pursuit. Neither Britain nor Israel has any law authorising the non-judicial killing of citizens of their own or foreign countries, however outrageous the provocation. To "stoop to the level of the gunman" undermines moral supremacy. It validates the gunman's claim that he is fighting a war, not committing common murder. It compromises the process of arrest, trial and imprisonment by which the rule of law is supposedly sustained.

So far, so straightforward. But low-intensity war — General Kitson's celebrated phrase for the stock-in-trade of today's soldier/police — has always implied gradations of response. A feature of such

wars is that those fighting them must behave initially as policemen, arresting wrongdoers and bringing them to justice. Another feature of such wars is that politics and military tactics sometimes require a more immediate response.

Israel is a democracy and its people, permanently on a war footing, are schooled to revenge. Some military response to the Friday attack was clearly vital if its government was to have any hope of maintaining even its half-hearted commitment to the peace talks. Likewise, in Ulster, Peter Brooke's extravagant but broken-backed security policy needed a quick "victory" in a province fearful that the IRA can now operate with virtual impunity.

In Israel such bloodshed is openly boasted, the more swiftly to restore public morale. Outsiders can only conclude that, of all the blood shed recently, that of Sheikh Moussawi is hardly the most innocent. In Northern Ireland, British governments prefer to cloak their killings in the garb of self-defence, the better to suggest compliance with the rule of law. That both population's morale can be lifted by the shedding of blood is a sign of the political degeneration in their respective theatres.

Neither case is susceptible to the snap moral judgment of those sitting safe in distant armchairs. Both must be subject to the pragmatic test of each act of war: how far will it contribute to eventual peace? Israel is now sliding into what seems the end game of the latest struggle with its Arab neighbours.

The howls for bloody revenge in Beirut yesterday suggest that Moussawi's death is hardly a step toward peace. In Ulster, a periodic shoot-to-kill incident may be tactically preferable to internment. But a security policy based on such methods is no substitute for political reform. For all the reform to "talks about talks", the British government is now committed to no change in the status quo. As long as this is true, such killings will be hard to defend as "a means to an end". What end?

OPTED INTO ANARCHY

Trumpers greeted last year's decision by Stratford School to opt out of local authority control. The efforts of the London Borough of Newham to close the school were defeated, thanks (in the words of one report) to "a dedicated and enthusiastic body of governors". Henceforth "free from the dead hand of local bureaucrats, pupils will leave better qualified with a brighter future". This was exactly what ministers had hoped would flow from opting out. When the school rolls rose from 180 pupils to 522, the optimism appeared justified.

Reality has been different. Some of the "dedicated" governors, according to a minute reported in yesterday's *Times*, were apparently dedicated largely to securing lucrative posts for themselves and each other. Freed from the controlling hand of the local council, one of their number, a teacher/governor, has allegedly accused the school's head, Anne Snelling, of being a "liar and a racist". The chairman of the governors seeks her dismissal. The governing body jumps on attempts by parents to start a Friends of Stratford School Association. The police have been called in.

Where in all this stands the education secretary? Mr Clarke prides himself as a bruiser. He has savaged progressive educationists and local authorities generally. He has taken draconian powers over the new opted-out grant maintained schools and can, at the stroke of a pen, cut them off without a penny. So far he has merely appointed two extra governors to the governing body, who, aided by a boycott by some others, governors, have succeeded in reversing its worst decisions. He is said to be preparing instructions which will lay down the limit of the governors' powers. But his advisers are worried whether further interference would be supported by the courts.

Mr Clarke is hoist by his own petard. His government invented opting out as a way of stopping precisely the sort of local political antics seen at Stratford from interfering with

good schooling. Having willed the end, he can hardly now deny the means, governor independence. If he does, he must accept that opting out of local authority control always meant as its critics said, opting in to control by Whitehall and its political masters.

In the days when local schools were run by local councils, the parents, teachers, councillors and other local representatives were granted balanced representation on governing bodies under an arrangement unique from local offices. This could lead to an excess of bureaucracy and of political interference, at least in some cities. Such evils the government's own initiative for "local management of schools" is eroding. As a result, governors and heads are gaining more power and more control over their budgets.

In opted-out schools, the law is vague on the relative power of governors and head, though the governors would seem to be sovereign subject only to the intervention of the secretary of state. Since the governors depend on Whitehall for resources, including capital for expansion, this intervention is certain to grow and become ever more bureaucratic. The central administration of the hospitals and prisons is an awful warning.

Mr Clarke must be sorely tempted to make clear that the authority of the Stratford head teacher must be restored and the governors' power restricted. He may issue a circular saying that schools will not be permitted to abuse their autonomy at public expense. But where then stands his "free market" in secondary education? Surely other schools in Newham should be given free rein to attract children back from Stratford School, rather than see the latter benefit yet further from Whitehall's attention and largess. Above all, Mr Clarke should now reassess his policy of letting some schools opt out, passing into his personal control, while others "sink" in the hands of cash-limited local councils. That policy was never clearly thought out. It is now leaking at all seams.

A CASE OF FALSE NOTES

Why in a visual medium like film or television does falsity in what is heard have more power to spoil dramatic illusion than falsity in what is seen? Why in the current remake of Simenon's Maigret does an English cockney voice seem so wrong in the mouths of characters presented in every other way as wholly French, complete with wine glass and beret?

The quest for visual authenticity even led the production team to Budapest, a city felt to look more Parisian than Paris (at least in its 1950s mode). But there was no equivalent to this successful Budapest bluff on the soundtrack. Making the Chief's rough-spoken crew adopt the raw accents of London's East End blocks all suspension of disbelief. *Pourquoi?* Thereby hangs a mystery worthy of the great man himself, one he would need to tackle with full pipe and pouch.

What might he contemplate, feet up, veiled in smoke, eyes half closed? Chief Inspector Jules Maigret's reputation rests upon his sympathy for the common man. He would observe surely that speech is an aid to the instant classification of humankind, to the anticipation of what to expect from strangers, far more useful than appearances, given the sameness of modern dress.

Maigret is as much a listener as a looker. We must listen with him. What we hear must be as audibly Parisian as Budapest in the springtime is visually so. Cockney will not do. To the English ear it is the sound of wharfmen in Wapping, costermongers in Commercial Road or the comical corporals of old war movies. It is no more suitable to convey

the argot of *La Sureté* than drawing American, say, would suit an actor playing Mozart (as Tom Hulce notoriously turned the film *Amadeus* into A Yank in Old Vienna).

Michael Gambon manages to play Maigret, like Rupert Davies in the 1960s, in the nondescript minor registers of the English middle-middle class — the "schoolmaster of Slough" solution — with just a hint of something regional, but nothing too vulgar. Clipped upper class, a voice which having launched a thousand prewar ships is now becoming as scarce as genuine cockney, is as hilariously ill suited to his tough-talking colleagues as to Maigret himself. But that does not stop one of his assistants being awarded a "public school" accent by the casting director.

Only two choices offer themselves. Either Maigret should have spoken French and had done with it, subtiles and all. Or his Frenchness should have been suppressed altogether and he moved to Britain. There he could be surrounded by underlings who can imitate (or revert to type in) the authentic tones of the Metropolitan Police traffic division. This is the polite but anti-posh speech of English working class officialdom, improved South London with A levels, Queen's Detectives' English. Here among the lads from the Bill are the true British equivalents of *les flics*. Here Maigret could play his trade, detecting criminality in each nuance of accentuation like a true Henry Higgins. As it was, viewers are left just baffled by the sight of Essex man quaffing his *vin ordinaire* in Budapest-sur-Seine.

From Mr R. G. J. Ottaway

Sir, Mr Alistair Sampson (letter, February 5) seems to believe that the main parties would support legislation enabling creditors to obtain interest on the late payment of debts. When I introduced the Right to Interest Bill in the House of Commons in 1987 the government stated it would support the Bill if requested to do so by the CBI and Institute of Directors. Despite the backing of the smaller members of these two institutions,

Fourth Trident boat needed to maintain nuclear deterrent

From Admiral of the Fleet

Lord Lewin

Sir, In the current debate on the future of Trident there is sometimes confusion over the relationship between the number of boats and the number of warheads.

The number of Trident boats is a matter for political decision, but a decision that should be based on the advice of those who have had 25 years' experience of operating the Polaris squadron and taking into account the latest intelligence assessments.

Polaris was planned as a five-boat force. The incoming Labour government in 1964 cancelled the fifth boat, thereby saving £60 million. Within ten years unforeseen improvements in Soviet anti-ballistic missile defences required improvements to the penetrative capability of Polaris — the Chevaline programme (letter, February 6) — which cost £1 billion. This would not have been necessary if a five-boat force had been retained.

In the present four-boat Polaris force there is always one in refit and a second preparing for refit or working up after refit. This leaves two in the operating cycle: one on patrol, the other in transit or engaged in loading stores and maintenance between patrols. Thus the average operational availability on patrol is something over one, perhaps 1.5

when the submarines are newish but nearer to 1.1 when they are as old as the Polaris boats. Like old cars, servicing now takes longer and costs more.

The Trident submarines, incorporating many design improvements, will have a somewhat better operational availability than their Polaris predecessors, but not to the extent that a three-boat force would be able to guarantee a continuous patrol.

These numbers ignore the insurance factor. In accidents, the Soviets have lost at least three nuclear submarines, the US Navy a similar number. The Royal Navy had a serious fire in HMS *Waspire* (not a Polaris boat) which put her out of action for over two years. Losing a Polaris boat by unfortunate accident would destroy the credibility of a continuously deployed deterrent.

Removing this insurance margin puts a great strain on those who have to maintain and operate the deterrent force and I understand that recently, because of reactor problems, crews have had to extend by two thirds the normal 60-day patrols. As so often happens, the serviceman pays for political parsimony.

To count a submarine in refit as contributing to warhead numbers deployed clearly exaggerates our capability. The sensible figure to

discuss is perhaps a maximum of two boats worth fully operational at any one time — 96 for Polaris (assuming each missile still has three warheads) and 256 for Trident, since HMG has announced that it will not deploy more than 128 warheads per submarine, even though each Trident missile can carry 12 warheads.

There have been hints recently from ministers (letter, February 14) that in certain circumstances the warhead numbers deployed could be substantially less. There is indeed nothing to prevent some missiles being fitted with only one warhead, when Trident might be considered as a sub-strategic deterrent.

There are perhaps economies to be made in exploiting the flexibility of the warhead/missile combination, since the latter are very much more expensive than the former. Certainly it would be pointless to procure more than enough missiles for three submarines since this is the maximum that could be loaded at any one time. There have been suggestions that each submarine might need to carry fewer than 16 missiles; there would undoubtedly be savings if a smaller number would satisfy our deterrent needs for the next 30 years.

Yours faithfully,

LEWIN,

House of Lords.

February 15.

Calling Gilbert in from the cold

From Mr Julian Wontner and Sir Hugh Casson

Sir, Mr Hardcastle's letter (February 1) about the W. S. Gilbert medallion on Victoria Embankment is most timely. In this anniversary year of Sullivan, is it not finally time that Gilbert came in from the cold windswept wall, close to Hungerford bridge, where he has "quietly and without ceremony" languished unnoticed for far too long, to join his colleagues Sullivan and D'Oyly Carte, in the pleasant precincts of the Victoria Embankment Gardens? The famous trio of the Savoy Theatre would thus be reunited.

Gilbert and Sullivan fans might also be interested to know that a pair of commemorative gates celebrating the Savoy operas have been designed and are being made by a Scottish craftsman to grace the entrance to the Savoy Cemetery garden, opposite the Savoy Hotel.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN WONTNER,
HUGH CASSON,
The Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2.
February 10.

Council tax payments

From Lord Henderson of Brompton

Sir, Tomorrow the House of Lords further discusses the Bill for the council tax. Mistakes made in the community charge must not be repeated in the council tax. Implementation of the new tax should be in line with the excellent principles of the recently launched citizen's charter, and should be accompanied by positive attempts to establish a new climate for the payment of local services and, in particular, to make payment easier for people on low incomes.

Tomorrow also sees the publication of a report by the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, *Charging into the tax*. The report makes a number of recommendations, some of which will be discussed in the Lords debate.

First, local authorities should be under a duty to allow people on low incomes to pay their council tax on a weekly or fortnightly basis. Secondly, people should not be summoned for payment of council tax if they have an outstanding claim for benefit which has not been paid by the local authority. Thirdly, where people have fallen into arrears, they should be given every opportunity to repay before bailiff action is taken.

I welcome the fact that the government have tabled an amendment to regulate bailiffs more closely, which gives some hope that they may agree to the other amendments. The CAB service is well placed to comment on the effects of the community charge. It is vital that the government listens to the evidence of their report.

Yours sincerely,
HENDERSON OF BROMPTON,
House of Lords.
February 17.

BBC's future

From Mr Richard F. Ackers

Sir,

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Marcus

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. Life & Times, February 12)

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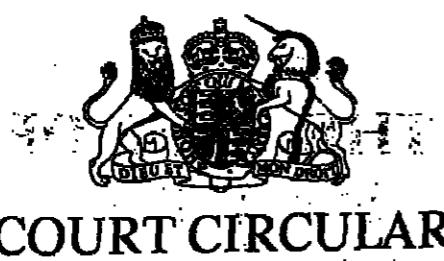
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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 17: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh left Heathrow Airport, London, this morning in a Qantas Boeing 747 for a visit to Australia.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received at the airport by the Lord Chamberlain (the Earl of Airlie). Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London (Field Marshal the Lord Bramall), the High Commissioner for Australia (His Excellency Mr R.J. Smith), Sir John Egan (Chief Executive, British Airports Authority) and Mr Roger Cato (Acting Operations Director, Heathrow Airport).

The following are in attendance: the Lady Farnham, the Rt Hon Sir Robert Fellowes, Sir Kenneth Scott, Mr Charles Anson, Surgeon Captain Norman Blacklock, RN, Lieutenant-Colonel David Buchanan and Mr Brian McGrath.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 17: The Princess Royal.

President, Royal Yachting Association, this morning visited the sailing exhibition at the annual Boat, Caravan and Leisure Show, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the West Midlands (the Earl of Aylesford).

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, this afternoon visited the factory and headquarters of Anglian Windows, Norwich, and was received by Captain J.S. Peal (Vice-Lieutenant of Norfolk).

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 17: The Duke of Kent, Patron of the British Computer Society, this afternoon received Mr Steve Matheson, Mr Gavin Kirkpatrick and Mr Philip Jones.

Birthdays today

Miss Phyllis Calvert, actress, 77; Mr José María Canizares, golfer, 45; Miss Jean E. Cooke, painter, 65; Miss Sinead Cusack, actress, 44; Mr Roy Dean, diplomat, 65; Mr Phillips, DeFreitas, cricketer, 26; Mr Len Delighton, author, 63; Lieutenant-General Sir Donald Duncanson, 69; Professor E.C. Edwards, former Vice-chairman, British Upsetters, 78; Ms. M. Louise Forman, film director, 60; Sir Charles Frossard, Bailiff of Guernsey, 70; Sir Eric Gairy, former Prime Minister of Grenada, 70; Mr Graeme Garden, actor and comedian, 49; Dr J.C. Houston, former dean, United Medical and Dental Schools, Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital, 75; Mr Colin Jackson, athlete, 25; Sir Peter Laurence, diplomat, 69; Miss Prue Leith, cookery writer and caterer, 52; Professor William McKane, former principal, St. Mary's College, St. Andrews University, 71; Sir Arthur Norman, former chairman, World Wide Fund for Nature, UK, 75; Mr Swraj Paul, company chairman, 61; Mr Robbie Robertson, former manager, English football team, 59; Mr Ian Stannard, director and writer, 61; Sir Mark Williams, solicitor, 66; Lieutenant-General Sir John Wilsey, 53.

Today's royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother will attend a reception given by the Special Forces Club at St. James's Palace at 7.00. The Princess of Wales, Patron of the National AIDS Trust, will attend the film premiere of *The Prince of Tides*, in aid of the Aids Crisis Trust, at the Odeon, Leicester Square, at 8.15.

The Princess Royal, Chief Commandant of the WRNS, will visit HMS SULTAN, Gosport, at 9.00, and, as president, Save the Children Fund, will visit Neville Russel, 246 Bishopsgate, at 1.40.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will attend a dinner given by the Egyptian Ambassador at 26 South Street, W1, at 8.00.

The Duke of Kent, President of the Licensed Victuallers' National Homes, will attend the Change of Keys ceremony at the New Connaught Rooms at 5.40.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the Westminster Pastoral Foundation, will attend a reception for the P.D.A. and their audience at the Design and Decoration Building, 107a Pimlico Road, SW1, at noon.

SIR RONALD
GARDNER-TORPE

A memorial service for Sir Ronald Gardner-Torpe will be held at St. Lawrence, Jewry-Next-Guildhall, City of London, on Thursday, March 5, 1992, at 11.00am.

Mr Richard Merriman, the Leicester group of county court

and the District Registry of the High Court at Leicester.

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Bradford & Bingley rises 7% to £107.8m

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

THE Bradford & Bingley Building Society yesterday reported a 7 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £107.8 million. In 1990, the figure was £100.6 million.

Provisions totalling £47.6 million were made during 1991, compared with £19.4 million the previous year. The provisions included £17.2 million for irrecoverable interest. They included "a small amount" for the Leamington Spa Building Society's loans. The Leamington Spa merged with B&B, the seventh-largest society, in June and most of its provisions were dealt with in their final accounts.

The Leamington had general reserves of £62 million at the end of 1990. About half of this was expected to be left

Harland chairman steps down

Harland Simon, the specialist engineer that issued a profit warning last week, said Roy Ashman had stepped down as chairman.

Mr Ashman, who had remained with the company two years after reaching retirement age, is succeeded by David Mahony, who was chairman of the group until November 1990 when he stepped aside to allow Mr Ashman, then chief executive, to assume a dual role.

Brewery deal

Allied Breweries has signed the agreement with Pubmaster, the retail subsidiary of Brewin Walker Group, for the lease of 734 public houses to Pubmaster, the acquisition of 46 managed houses and a beer supply agreement to the remainder of Brewin Walker's retail estate.

Net asset rise

The net asset value at The Second Alliance Trust advanced to £13.62 per share at the end of January, up from £13.61 six months earlier and from £10.88 a year earlier. The interim dividend is raised from 11.5p to 12p.

Gartmore up

The net asset value at Gartmore Emerging Pacific Investment Trust has risen to 51.1p at the end of 1991, compared with 44.9p a year earlier. There is a single final dividend of 0.23p (0.1p).

Dividend ahead

The net asset value at Anglo & Overseas Trust advanced to 317.3p at the end of 1991, against 267.7p a year earlier. The final dividend is 4.7p (4.4p), making 6.45p (6.15p).

Irens moves

Nicholas Irens is to step down as finance director of First Leisure, a move that will enable him to take up a position as chief executive of a new company soon.

Reece forecast

Reece, the fastener supplier, said it will incur a pre-tax loss in the second half of the financial year to end-December, but will show a profit for the full year.

Long-term jobless likely to rise

BY ROSS THIEMAN

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A SHARP rise in the number of people out of work for more than six months is expected to be confirmed by official figures today.

The absence of any economic upturn after 22 consecutive monthly increases in unemployment is certain to push up the numbers of long-term jobless.

The last set of quarterly figures, published in November, showed a 118,000 rise in the number unemployed for more than six months, to 1.2 million.

Although the problem is not as bad as five years ago, evidence from Thames Valley Enterprise (TVE), one of Britain's 82 Training and Enterprise Councils, points to the emergence of an unskilled underclass, apparently incapable of escaping the trap of unemployment without help. A study, believed to be the first of its type, for TVE by the employment department's intelligence unit, found more than 40 per cent of claimants had no formal qualifications. Of those unemployed for less than six months, 85 per cent had qualifications. But among

those out of work for more than 30 months, only 9 per cent had any kind of qualification.

Ian Wright, TVE's marketing director, said: "It appears that there is a vicious cycle which means that those without qualifications are unable to escape the trap of unemployment."

"They cannot afford to look for work outside their immediate area because their earning potential is lower. There is also a clear relationship between poor health and long-term unemployment."

But Mr Wright said the ability of individuals to escape the trap would depend not just upon their willingness to take up training available from TVE, but upon an end to the recession.

The TVE survey provides an unparalleled picture of the unemployed in a hitherto privileged area where the jobless number has almost doubled in 12 months. For more than a decade, Maidenhead, Slough and Bracknell have been a focus for high-technology industry.

To the north, the commuter area around Aylesbury, has ranked among the most prosperous in Britain. In January 1991, there were 21,077 people out

Royal jelly firm's founder queen bows out



BY GRETAN BOWDITCH

IRENE Stein, above, the founder of Regina Health & Beauty Products, the company that markets royal jelly, has sold her entire 8.65 per cent shareholding in the company for £97,079.

Mrs Stein, who received a fraction over a penny per share for her stake, resigned from the company in November 1990 after an acrimonious

boardroom split. She returned as a consultant in October 1990 but was not present at the group's annual meeting last month.

The shares have been acquired by Neptune Trust Corporation which now has a 10.9 per cent holding and the group's share price rose 2p to 34p on the news.

The group is now run by Shiraz

Malik-Noor, chairman and chief executive, supported by Anthony Shakesley, the finance director, and Paul Geoghegan, a director.

Mr Malik-Noor joined Regina Health & Beauty Products in December 1990 and has since injected £660,000 into the business.

Employee numbers have been cut by more than half, borrowings have largely been repaid and the losses

have been reduced. But the group is still finding the market difficult, as first the Gulf war and then the recession took its toll on sales.

Regina Health & Beauty Products lost £505,000 in the 14 months to August 31 last year, an improvement from the £4.7 million pre-tax loss for the year to June 30, 1990.

Turnover fell from £5.7 million to £3.21 million.

Goldman Sachs to guide Russia

BY OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GOLDMAN Sachs, the American securities house, has been appointed to advise the Russian government on how to attract foreign investment in the federation. Yegor Gaidar, the Russian deputy prime minister, disclosed in Moscow yesterday.

Mr Gaidar said Goldman Sachs would have the task of assisting the committee on foreign investment, chaired by Lobod Gogorov, deputy minister of economy and finance, to develop a strategy for attracting foreign project investment in Russia, by far the largest and most resource-rich of the countries to emerge from the former Soviet Union. The committee will also be assisted by Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, legal advisers to the Russian government.

Mr Gaidar said the committee would cover investment in a broad range of industries, but highlighted oil and natural gas, which pro-

duced hard currency earnings, as an area of "critical importance" to economic growth. Food processing, distribution, consumer and health products, and housing were other areas to be targeted for inward investment, he said.

The Russian economy will experience no growth until at least 1993 after the country's finances have stabilised and economic restructuring has taken place," Mr Gaidar predicted.

He said that a return to growth next year was the "most optimistic hypothesis". But he rejected the suggestion that the economy was in a hopeless state, preferring instead to describe conditions as "difficult".

Mr Gaidar said he expects that the ruble will lose value against the dollar, although the current rate is about 90 to the dollar, compared with the peak of 140 immediately after Russian prices were deregulated early last month.

Dalgety moves up to £53.8m

BY MARTIN WALLER

DALGETY, the food group that includes Golden Wonder, Kettlemeat and Winalot among its brands, raised pre-tax profits from £51.7 million to £53.8 million in the six months to end-December despite difficult conditions.

Sales rose 6 per cent to £2,013 million in the first half. The interim dividend rises from 7.15p to 7.50p, higher than some market observers expected, and the shares rose 7p to 37.4p.

Maureen Warren, the chief executive, said the performance was "very satisfactory". Dalgety was concentrating on the main core businesses of consumer foods, ingredients, distribution and agriculture, and on areas where it was strong. The search for acquisitions of the right sort, offering the benefit of synergy with the group's existing operations, was continuing.

Whether Dalgety's quote is achieved by flotation or a reverse takeover of an existing

company has yet to be decided.

However, there are a growing number of property companies that look in need of not only fresh capital but also new management.

Assuming the fundraising is a success, the money will be used to unwind Pall Mall Properties, the off-balance sheet company owned jointly by P&O and Chelsfield, which took over Lavington Properties for £492 million in 1990. Confirmation that the fundraising was well advanced sent shares in P&O 10p higher to 388p. The unwinding of Pall Mall is expected to follow the plan outlined at the time of P&O's £600 million rights issue last year. P&O will retain the Canadian properties and about half the British. The American properties would remain jointly owned. P&O shares fell last week on speculation that Chelsfield would have trouble raising the finance for its share of Pall Mall.

Fundraising close at Chelsfield

BY MATTHEW BOND

BUSINESSES FOR SALE

MISCELLANEOUS

PROFITABLE WHOLESALE SANDWICH MANUFACTURING BUSINESS AND ASSETS.

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Tempus, page 20

RECESSION PROOF BUSINESS

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Cheaper oil
but not for long

Oil prices reacted badly to the botched weekend meeting of Opec with Brent crude weak in London all day after taking its cue from far eastern oil trades. The key influence, America, was absent yesterday. When traders return to their desks after the president's day break, further price falls seem inevitable.

Quota agreements signed at Opec gatherings are one thing. Far more important for price stability is the so-called quality of the agreement. On this score, last weekend was close to a disaster. The Saudis seem intransigent over their own quota of just below 8 million barrels per day and that alone will scupper any serious effort by others to trim their own output.

The oil cartel is a long way from achieving its target price of \$21 per barrel for Opec crude, which usually trade at a discount to the more widely quoted (in Britain at least) Brent crude and the supply/demand equation suggests further easing — especially as the second quarter, when northern hemisphere demand tends to weaken, wears on.

Later this year, when demand picks up and some overall growth can be expected, the demand for Opec oil will probably rise to around 23.5 million bpd, slightly above the ceiling agreed in Geneva. But still the cartel faces problems of growing output from Kuwait as its oil installations recover from the ravages of the Gulf war.

Dividing the cake in an acceptable way will not therefore become any easier. Prices should begin to firm. But even this modest assumption may not hold though. Russia sorely needs hard currency and is granting export licences. It has the capacity, when it gets its act together, to provide a further damper on demand for Opec crude. For the moment, Iraq remains on the sidelines. Eventually Saddam must reach an accord of sorts with the UN and limited exports will begin.

However, the Saudi budget appears to imply a conservative attitude to output and pricing for 1992. According to analysis by UBS Phillips & Drew, the Saudi books could balance on present output provided Brent crudes average as little as \$16. This suggests that at some time this year, Saudi has room for shifting its position to take up any slack should prices be looking unacceptably weak. Overall therefore, any further price falls are likely to prove temporary.

Lloyd's hits back

An unsuccessful corner of the economy is liable to find itself at the centre of a real or ersatz political row at the moment. The onslaught on Lloyd's, started counter-productively by some self-serving Tory MPs, looks more artificial than most. Ten years ago, Lloyd's was awash with corruption, much of it bred by high personal tax rates and tax avoidance techniques. The stable door was progressively bolted during the Eighties, however, and London's unique insurance market is probably now as clean as it has ever been.

Yesterday's scandals have, however, raised ghosts of suspicion among some names over the huge losses incurred due to underwriting disasters. These are common to the world insurance industry in one of its worst ever cycles but have hit individuals harder at Lloyd's and have exposed some amateurish incompetence more suited to balmier days. The Rowland report points the way to business reforms needed to complement the regulatory changes already made. David Coleridge has nailed the most important canards launched over the past week. Unlike many real scandals, this deserves to be a nine-day wonder even in election year.

The recession has taken its toll of developers in the City and West End but Judi Bevan finds signs that the worst is over

Walk down any central London street and the proliferation of "To Let" signs tells the same recessionary story. Capital values of City property declined more than 30 per cent last year. Many property developers are paralysed by debt, an unprecedented 40 million sq ft of office space overhangs the capital, while big schemes such as Spitalfields and King's Cross are in limbo. At Canary Wharf, the Reichmann brothers' monument to the Thatcher era, the first phase has been 55 per cent let for months.

Despite the best views in London and succulent inducements from Olympia & York, tenants have been painfully thin on the ground. News that the environment department is to move there from Victoria has not come a moment too soon.

Yet just as in the housing market, there are some straws in the wind that signal conditions in London's ravaged commercial property market will soon start to improve.

Geoff Marsh, head of Applied Property Research (APR), the independent consultant, is convinced that a turning point has been reached. "In prime City and West End locations there is now competition for good quality buildings. Business confidence has hit bottom and there are a number of large corporate customers in the market."

Mr Marsh was among the first to forecast the bad times. But the fact that rents both in the City and the West End have fallen to 1986 levels while landlords are no longer the avaricious, arrogant beings of the late Eighties, he sees as positive. Humbled by conditions, landlords have become much more flexible.

Many are starting to give a ten-year break clause in the traditional 25-year lease. Developers with a new building might even give a five-year break clause, although the upward rent review remains sacrosanct. Then there are rent-free periods offered as an inducement to tenants to move. Some companies will even take on existing leases.

What Mr Marsh calls "ridiculous conventions" such as the ongoing "hidden" having to pay the landlord's legal fees are quietly disappearing "although not all agents and landlords have been told," he said.

But for recovery in market activity to be sustained, there will need to be a spirited demand from occupiers. As yet, this is patchy. But more encouraging than what one property owner described as "60 buildings chasing six tenants" is that in the past three months, landlords have faced up to the basic law of supply and demand. Rents have been axed.

The best example is in North Audley Street, Mayfair. Last November, Martin Myers, chief executive of



Small lets are better than no lets at all: Peter Hunt, chairman of Land Securities, is encouraged by the signs in the market

Imry, a property group, made the controversial decision to slash the asking rent on the 55,000 sq ft property from £58 a sq ft to £32. The move outraged other landlords, but, just as intended, the strategy has stimulated interest and created a new rental floor. The word is that negotiations with a single tenant are nearing the final stages and a deal should be signed within weeks.

At APR, Mr Marsh believes that demand is intrinsically strong if a sufficiently attractive package is on offer. One example of a company taking advantage of the climate is Courtaulds, which has said goodbye to its old-fashioned headquarters in

Broadgate, believes such moves are part of a discernible trend. "Tenants are consolidating. Those in three or four buildings want to move to one to provide a corporate culture and environment. Anything built before 1980 is now obsolete as far as big corporate tenants go. They are measuring space in terms of cost per employee and they want quality, service and value. It is no different to Sainsbury."

There is also a groundswell of demand from smaller occupiers. Peter Hunt, the chairman of Land Securities, said: "Since our annual report last May, we let little in the City or West End until October. But since then, we have seen some activity in the market and we hope this encouraging sign will continue." He is talking of relatively small lets from 11,000 sq ft downwards, but something is better than nothing.

The investment market is also perking up. Demand from British and overseas investors for good quality buildings has been gaining momentum since mid-1991. Knight Frank & Rutley, the estate agent, has reported a "resurgence of activity and confidence in the property investment market. This has led to a firming of yields, despite poor rental growth prospects."

This is not just estate agents' hype. In the third quarter of last year, investment in property came to £689 million, a jump of 25 per cent on the previous quarter and the highest level since the last quarter of 1989.

While the Japanese have largely

retreated since the purchase of half the Little Britain site by Nippon Life last August, there have been some modest investments by the Dutch, Germans and Middle Eastern companies over the past few months. Burton has sold a site in Oxford Street to Melisira BV while a German company has bought a 190,000 sq ft building on the City fringes from Norwich Union. Scottish Widows' purchase of Three Quays House from Capital & Counties shows British institutions on the prowl for select properties.

As ever, the agents are doing their best to stimulate the market. In its recent World Rentals survey, Rich-

'Demand from British and overseas investors for good quality buildings has been gaining momentum'

Securities picking up shopping centres in Salisbury and York three months ago. There is a general move to look for properties in towns with growth prospects. On the retail front, the recent sale of Mountleigh's Merry Hill shopping mall development in the West Midlands to Hammerson and the American O'Connor Group provided a welcome ray of light.

According to the Investment Property Databank, retail property was the only sector to show any increase in rents during December, while industrial property offered the best return. All this is not to say the property sector is out of the woods by a long way. In London, conditions remain sluggish to terrible.

"It takes five times as long to negotiate a deal these days," one landlord said. Not only is there 40 million sq ft of office space to let there are also planning permissions granted for another 53 million sq ft. So no one is suggesting a return to the mid-Eighties. The property sector traditionally lags the economy and until that shows a decisive move upwards, property men will moan.

The election is also clouding the issue. Many would-be tenants, here and overseas, are postponing a decision until they know the colour of the new government. When they do, and if they like it, the London property market could well see some pent-up demand. But it will only be for the best quality in the right locations. The rest will continue to gather dust for some years to come.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

One in, two out
at Schroders

Two more analysts have resigned from Schroders, the merchant bank and securities house. Mike Berts, building analyst, is joining Goldman Sachs and Simon Roberts, engineering expert, is switching to fund management and joining Fidelity. Their departure will leave Schroders' UK equities team with only two analysts and three salesmen, covering oil, waste management and environmental stocks. Speculation that Schroders intends to pull out of the UK securities market is, however, wrong. Underlining the point, the firm has just appointed as head of UK equities, Douglas Gordon, formerly of Sheppards, where he was an equity salesman. He also worked at Hoare Govett and, for 20 years, Vivian Gray. "I started ten days ago and they resigned a few days after that," says Gordon, aged 41. "I was very sorry to see them go. My brief here is to build up a UK securities team and so we are now out in the market place looking for good people. There was a feeling outside the firm that there was no commitment and maybe that permeated into Schroder Securities as well, but I would hope that the mere fact that I have come here will now put a stop to it." In the short term, he will be looking to recruit six analysts and then the salesmen to complement them. Gordon is particularly keen on the leisure sector and capital goods industries. Gordon will report to Ivan Sedgwick, head of European equities.



RHS pruned

The City's hold over the Royal Horticultural Society will, from today, be diminished. Robin Herbert, towering chairman of Leopold Joseph and Union Discount, remains as its chairman, but, after a ten-year stint, as its treasurer, Lawrence Banks is to retire. Banks, aged 53, is a man who knows more than most about pruning and reshaping, and that experience must have stood him in good stead in his other guise, as deputy chairman of Robert Fleming, the merchant bank and chairman of its corporate finance division. Banks has presided over the RHS during the most sustained period of growth in its history. He will now hand over to Martin Slocock, a professional nurseryman. Banks' interest in gardening, although not professional, is both public and private. His home in Herefordshire, Hergest Croft, boasts a famous garden, complete with family arboretum. His wife, Elizabeth, is a respected garden designer whose restoration work has included Hampton Court, Arundel Castle and Goodwood. Of her new commis-

sions, the most challenging was, she says, the garden of the British Embassy in Paris, a large section of which is built on top of a car park.

PENGUIN has published the second edition of a paperback called Management and Motivation. One of the authors is a Victor Vroom.

Resilient tipplers

The recession clearly has not affected the pockets of brokers working in the Lloyd's of London insurance market. Lautrecs wine bar, adjacent to Lautrecs wine bar, adjacent to the Lloyd's Lime Street building, and a popular watering hole, has just been sold to USM-quoted Courtyard Leisure for £390,000. Courtyard says Lautrecs' turnover of £450,000 has proved "resilient through the recession". Lautrecs, which opened in 1986, will increase the number of wine bars owned by Courtyard to five, all within the Square Mile. The others are Pumas, Wynkin de Worde, Grinling Gibbons and Benjamin Stillingfleet. Jonathan North, Courtyard's non-executive chairman, whose main job is as a partner and head of the company corporate department — at Cannons, the West End law firm — says the company is negotiating two other acquisitions — one a group of public houses, the other a group of restaurants, both in greater London. "We don't want to be too reliant on the City, but we want the epicentre of the group to remain within the M25 circle," he says.

CAROL LEONARD

Name of the game

From Mr J.M.H. Balcon

Sir, I joined Lloyd's in 1952, and have recently retired after 40 years as both a broker and, latterly, as a member's agency names director in a combined agency.

I feel that I must speak out on behalf of those hundreds of unassuming working names who look after their clients, if brokers, or their names, if agents, or their syndicates, if managing agents.

In my youth it was clearly understood that, if money was to be made in Lloyd's, then it could be done in a number of ways:

1. Build up your own portfolio of business;

2. Acquire equity in the firm for which you were working;

3. Raise sufficient capital to start your own business;

4. Become an underwriting name — in those days the numbers of external names were very much fewer and it was one of the perks of employment to become a name.

As a result, salaries per se were low, and profits from underwriting helped to raise one's living standards from modest to comfortable (I was, in fact, only able partially to educate my children privately).

The boom in membership was largely brought about by large numbers of grossly overpaid people, in all walks of life, being persuaded by a very small number of unscrupulous agents that, protected by Lloyd's, and it was a marvellous way to use one's capital resources twice (sic).

Our own approach, as a firm, was: "The one thing we can guarantee you is that you, at some stage, will be writing us a cheque."

Yours faithfully,

J.M.H. BALCON

The Grey House,
Seal, Kent.

Insiders just as susceptible to Lloyd's losses

From Mr D. Forcey

Sir, The current hue and cry about further irregularities at Lloyd's is as usual, in my opinion, uninformed and terribly damaging to the market.

My colleagues and I are responsible for running a highly successful Lloyd's reinsurance broker; I presume therefore we are so-called insiders. Ask my chairman about the "huge profits" he has made for 1989 and 1990, ask all my colleagues.

Many working name friends have suffered huge losses. Very often because they have worked their way up they have not the capital resources to absorb these losses. Normally outsiders have.

When I and my colleagues

Problems remain

From Mr R.I.M. Overend

Sir, The names on the 1982 Outhwaite Action Group should be congratulated for their substantial victory against the Outhwaite syndicate and their firm views on the matter. However, due to adverse publicity of Lloyd's by the media, mainly due to the 1988, 1989 and 1990 results, the following should be mentioned in respect of the Outhwaite 1982 year result:

1. Names were insisting on joining the syndicate in 1981 for the 1982 year because Mr Outhwaite was flavour of the moment and the man to follow for the future.

The above must lead one to conclude that from now on action groups will swell in numbers and litigation within the industry of Lloyd's will be a way of life.

This further reinforces my views that the Rowland task force has not tackled the basic problems with Lloyd's, and the future of this once great institution must now be brought into question.

Yours faithfully,

R.I.M. OVEREND

Kin Cottage, Bottrells Lane,

Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire.

place business with an underwriter we are never influenced by whether or not we are a name on that particular syndicate. It is our job to complete the risk for our client wherever we can. In any event business that we perceive to be good or bad is not necessarily viewed that way by underwriters.

Lloyd's is a market place; there are both profitable and unprofitable underwriters; all the regulation in the world (external or not) cannot avoid that. They are remunerated partly on a profit commission basis; that is good commercial sense.

The profit commission can only be calculated long after the end of the year in question when the maybe the cycle has

Working names realise the risks

From Mr J.C.R. Kelly

Sir, I am working member of Lloyd's and not a member of the 1982 Outhwaite syndicate, and have firm views on the matter. However, due to adverse publicity of Lloyd's by the media, mainly due to the 1988, 1989 and 1990 results, the following should be mentioned in respect of the Outhwaite 1982 year result:

1. Names were insisting on joining the syndicate in 1981 for the 1982 year because Mr Outhwaite was flavour of the moment and the man to follow for the future.

2. Mr Outhwaite I believe quoted a great number of these run-off risks. Orders were received for 32 but twice this number were declined due to the terms being too expensive, in the opinion of the prospective purchasers.

3. Names having an equal share on the syndicate since it started and still participating today have made an overall profit bar the "open year" of 1982.

Under reaction followed by

over reaction benefits very few. Common sense backed up by positive action should prevail but this unfortunately rarely happens, especially in Britain.

If the market agreement occurs with regard to the 1982 Outhwaite syndicate then the majority of names will incur additional losses. Also for 1988, 1989 and 1990 years there are a number of working names who have suffered substantial losses and I have not heard them whingeing as they are in a risk business.

It would be much more beneficial to Lloyd's and the country to address the Task Force recommendations and go forward positively. We are all aware of the mistakes of the past. Even so the London insurance market is still the largest invisible earner for the country.

These actions should never have been allowed in the first place if Lloyd's had acted promptly in undertaking one of its main responsibilities of names, that is duty of care.

Instead of names being involved in expensive litigation, Lloyd's should have acted decisively on their behalf instead of being forced into settlement out of court.

If the only way of making

Council to blame

From Mr R.C. Dutton-Forshaw

Sir, As a member of the Outhwa

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No	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Reed	Building Rds	
2	Cable Wireless	Electrical	
3	Creighton Nt	Industrial	
4	Sex TV	Leisure	
5	North West	Water	
6	Peckhamon	Building Rds	
7	Mind	Electrical	
8	Freeman Gp	Building Rds	
9	Yorks Chem	Chemical	
10	Micro Focus	Electrical	
11	Smiths Ind	Industrial	
12	Argo Waggon	Paper/Print	
13	Grand Met	Breweries	
14	THORN EMI	Electrical	
15	Vodafone	Electrical	
16	Bletherton Gp	Newspaper/Pub	
17	Voice	Electrical	
18	Wimpey G	Building Rds	
19	NFC	Transport	
20	Severn Trent	Water	
21	Allied-Lyons	Breweries	
22	Yorkshire W	Water	
23	Guinness	Breweries	
24	Five Oaks	Property	
25	Surmaan Uts	Transport	
26	Br Alarms	Transport	
27	Argus Plc	Drapery/Sus	
28	Stampeke Prps	Property	
29	Sian Water	Water	
30	Diploma	Industrial	
31	Kingfisher	Drapery/Sus	
32	Alexon	Drapery/Sus	
33	Macro 4	Electrical	
34	Land Sec	Property	
35	Gernard Nat	Banks/Div	
36	Central TV	Leisure	
37	Cathay-Schw	Food	
38	Barnard Card	Oil/Gas	
39	Bonny Hines	Leisure	
40	Headman	Stamps/Off	
41	Nordmennian	Water	
42	Pilkington	Industrial	
43	Welsh Water	Water	
44	Campari	Leisure	
	© Times Newspapers Ltd. Total		

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

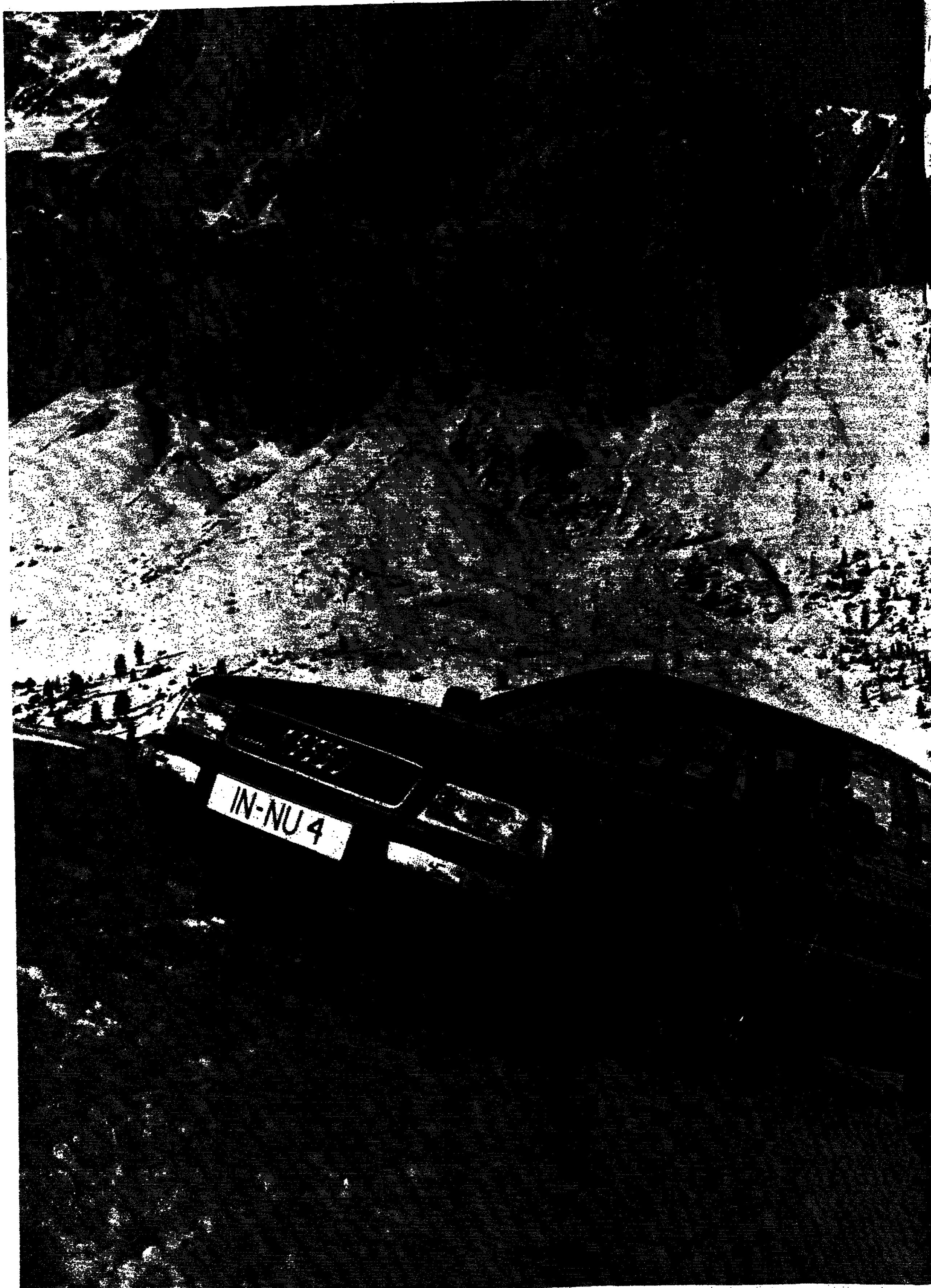
Please make a note of your daily yields for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

Weekly Total

Miss T. Browne of Virginia Water, Surrey, won the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday.

1991/92	High	Low	Company	Price	No	Yld	%	P/E
311	211	188	Abbey Nat	288	+ 2	9.5	4.6	24
322	23	19	Academy Gp	152	+ 1	1.5	1.5	12
333	241	208	Academy Utd	171	+ 1	1.5	1.5	12
344	115	105	AIK of Ireland	135	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
355	340	310	AIU	340	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
366	91	81	AIU South	110	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
377	3	2	AIU South	175	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
388	25	23	AIU South	175	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
399	255	230	AIU South	175	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
400	255	230	AIU South	175	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
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988	255	230	AIU South	175	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
999	255	230	AIU South	175	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
1000	255	230	AIU South	175	+ 1	0.9	2.0	12
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THE TIMES

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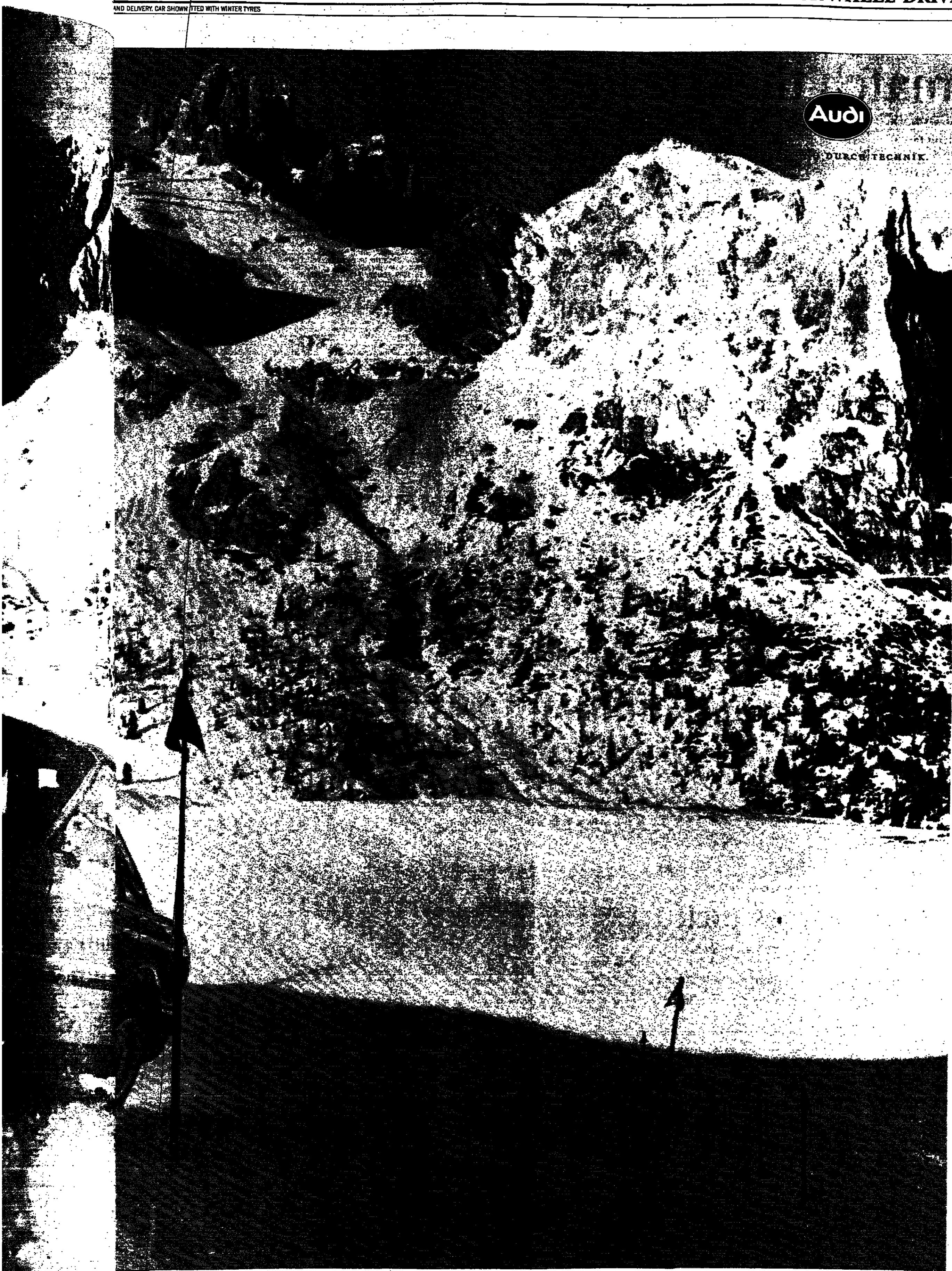
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Pick your model to match the terrain

Eric Dymock
considers the
vehicles that
have survived
early criticism

Trials by consumer organisations in the United States and tests by *Which?* magazine in September 1988 led to calls to ban small Suzuki and Daihatsu because the testers apparently confirmed that small Jeeps-type vehicles do not handle like cars.

A good off-roader needs a lot of ground clearance, but tall on-road cars do not corner well. Four years ago, safety authorities said small four-wheel-drive vehicles overturned too easily, although later they had to acknowledge that they should not automatically be regarded as unsafe.

High-built cars fall over more easily than low-built ones, and suspension design has not yet defeated a high centre of gravity. Some four-wheel-drive vehicles are at their best off the road, others on the road. So the four-wheel-drive market is best divided into two sections — off-road and on-road.

There are also sub-divisions. Some off-road vehicles are mainly agricultural and practical, such as pickup trucks or construction-site vehicles. Others are luxury conveyances, for grouse moor and field sports fanatics, not farmyard and survey teams.

On-road four-wheel-drive cars are divided into those that have four-wheel-drive for tractive effort — pulling boats, small trailers or caravans into and out of muddy fields — and those with four-wheel drive for speed.

Off-road luxury vehicles are Isuzu Trooper, Lada Niva, Land-Rover Discovery, Range Rover, Mercedes-Benz G-Wagen, Mitsubishi Shogun, Nissan Patrol, Toyota



Challenging: Mercedes-Benz has tried to match the Range Rover for comfort

Land Cruiser, Vauxhall Frontera.

Off-road agricultural and practical: Dacia Duster, Daihatsu Fourtrak, Sportrak, Land-Rover Defender, Mahindra, Suzuki Vitara, Toyota Hilux pickup, Umm Alter, Volkswagen Transporter.

On-road practical: Audi 80 and 100, quattro, Citroën BX, Fiat Panda, Ford Sierra XR4x4 2.0, EFi, Mazda 626 2.2i GLX 4x4, Mitsubishi Galant 2.0 GTi, Peugeot 405 1.9 GLX, Subaru Justy and Legacy, Suzuki Swift, Toyota Celica, Vauxhall Cavalier and Calibra, Volkswagen Golf Syncro.

On-road handling and roadholding: Audi Coupe quattro, Ford Sierra XR4x4 2.9 EFi, Ford Sierra 2.0 RS Cosworth 4x4, Ford Scorpio 2.9 EFi, Ghia 4x4, Lancia Delta HF Integrale, Peugeot 405 Mi16, Porsche 911 Carrera 4, Renault 21 2.0 Turbo Quadra.

In the off-road luxury class, the Range Rover remains the best, though at £35,910 the top 3.9 Vogue looks extravagant, and the G-Wagen is a formidable rival. Mercedes-Benz has worked

hard to match the Range Rover for comfort and refinement. The G-Wagen was handed over from the truck engineering division to the passenger car department for new engines, less noise and a luxury interior. The vehicle still looks like something the military or the rescue services might use, yet it is as serene as a Mercedes-Benz car. The G-Wagen can wade through a stream a lot deeper than the recommended 60cm, pick its way over wet, rounded boulders, and then haul itself up a wet bank. It will tackle slopes of 40 per cent, steeper than the average staircase, and remain stable when tilted at 34 degrees.

Subaru has one of the best answers in the new Legacy, as unassuming and anonymous as a small Volvo or a Ford Escort, with the refinement of either, and more grip than both. Audi Coupés and Porsche 911s have four-wheel drive for another reason. Handling and roadholding are the essence of a sports car.

When the Audi came out in 1980 it was like a Range Rover built by watchmakers, making four-wheel drive a practical proposition for road cars by miniaturising a system that had previously been large and clumsy.

Audi's reward was not only to take the lead in international rallying, influencing the future design of rally cars, but also to establish a leadership in four-wheel-drive technology.

Yet not everybody wants something so heavy or elaborate. People living on a hill may not want a vehicle that uses a lot of petrol. They need the extra grip on a slippery slope for only a few weeks in winter. At other times they want the comfort, refinement and economy of a car.

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How Audi introduced the car that revolutionised the moor industry

Innovation that had to wait 30 years

FOUR-WHEEL drive had to wait more than 30 years from the Land-Rover's launch to be introduced into a family car. Ten years later, every large manufacturer has at least one version in its range.

The breakthrough came at the 1980 Geneva Motor Show, when Audi produced its first quattro, and made famous the name that it uses for all its four-wheel drives.

Edward Rowe at Audi says:

"That car revolutionised the motor industry and the attitude of motor sports and the motoring public."

Technical problems had defeated previous attempts to make this form of power transmission available on high-performance cars. Complex design, poor efficiency, greater cost and unpredictable performance had made four-wheel drive unattractive, at least for high-speed cars.

In the quattro there is a slight loss of miles per gallon because of the extra weight caused by the extra mechanical devices, although this is partly offset by the longer life of the tyres, as every wheel has less to do.

Production followed three years after the idea, which Audi describes as an unusually short time for a new model. An old Audi 80 was converted as a test vehicle in March 1977 and by November that

year it was tried on the roads. In the next year it was tested in severe winter conditions on Europe's steepest mountain road with sun tyres and no snow chains.

In 1978, a firmer at Gaimersheim, near Munich, hosed a hillside to produce a sea of mud. Toni Schumacher, the chairman of Volkswagen, Audi's parent company, tackled the hill in several vehicles with different transmission systems. Only the four-wheel drive reached the top.

In 1979 Hannu Mikkola, the Finnish international rally driver, said he would drive the car in rallies.

The car was introduced to Britain in spring 1981 with left-hand drive and in December that year with right-hand drive.

Audi now has at least two four-wheel-drive models in every range. Mr Rowe says:

"Its advantages are not just in

among the general motoring public.

Mr Rowe says: "Many car sport enthusiasts dismissed the quattro as good only in rallying loose gravel and snow, but we believed it had an advantage under all conditions."

More than 11,000 four-wheel-drive Audis have now been built. Britain is the largest export market, having bought more than 2,500.

Oddly, it is particularly popular in London with those wanting a high-performance car and in central Scotland, where it copes with the harsh climate.

About 20 per cent of Audis sold are four-wheel-drive cars, although the ratio varies across the range. The quattro version is more popular in the more expensive, higher-performance cars.

Mr Rowe says: "We expect the quattro to make a big move forward this year when we launch an automatic version. Previously all the quattros had manual gear change, but either up the range there is greater demand for automatics."

He is referring to the Audi V8. He says: "It impresses even drivers who previously considered automatics too little fun."

RODNEY HOBSON



The car that started it all: the Audi 80 2.8E quattro is a modern version of the first four-wheel-drive model

New models are competing, but even low prices do not always attract the customers

Hard time for newcomers

Paradoxically in the world of four-wheel drive do not have an easy time. Eric Dymock writes: Unless they can show some advantage in style or price, customers who have bought Land-Rovers for generations are resistant.

The more rustic of them do not attract car tax, so some, such as the Mahindra, from India, start at a modest £8,599. The Mahindra is a throwback to an earlier era. It is based on the CJ3B Jeep, and is made under licence from Willys-Overland, of the United States, which was responsible for half of the 640,000 Jeeps manufactured between 1941 and the end of the second world war.

As with the companies that make the Land-Rover and the Morris, Mahindra started with Jeeps built from imported kits of parts, progressing to manufacture long after the original maker had turned to better things. Changes were inevitable. The original US Army quarter-ton 4x4 could manage only 55mph on its 2.2-litre side-valve engine.

The Mahindra has an over-head-valve Peugeot diesel of about the same horsepower but it is higher-revving and manages a noisy 75 mph.

The bonnet is taller to accommodate the larger engine, the wheel base is longer than on the old Jeep, and there is a fourth gear. It has the same drum brakes, but no diff locks like modern sophisticated four-wheel drives, and there are few concessions to comfort.

The suspension is firm and the steering heavy. It slogs through mud much as the old Jeep did, but makes a Land-Rover feel luxurious. Old-fashioned engineering demands old-fashioned servicing, and the Mahindra needs greasing and oiling every 3,000 miles.

Many of its rivals are Land-Rover lookalikes, selling in limited numbers, such as the French Auerland A3, which costs from £8,995 to £9,650 and is available as a pickup, with soft or hard top. The Romanian Dacia Duster is something of a bargain at £7,151, and although it had quality problems when first imported in the mid-1980s, it gained a reputation for rugged austerity.

The Portuguese Umm Alter has a strong four-cylinder



The throwback the low-price Mahindra, from India, is based on the CJ3B Jeep — diesel engine, and 12 models are available through a network of 75 UK dealers at £10,192 to £13,834.

Vauxhall introduced a promising newcomer last year with well-established Far Eastern credentials, striking style and a competitive price. It is built at Luton in the old Bedford factory through a joint venture between General Motors and Isuzu.

The Frontera is technically sound, with a nudge bar, front hubs and leaf springs at the back, but is hardly the calibre of the Discovery.

The part-time four-wheel drive makes the Frontera economical on the road. Although it has not the Discovery's exemplary off-road performance, it is a styling exercise of merit. The nudge

bars, ft tyres, and rough off-road appearance will be the making of it.

One of the anomalies of the styling which the Frontera shares with many of its contemporaries is the large spare wheel on the tailgate. Just when other makers are trying to get rid of it, anything with cross-country ambitions has to hang its spare wheel on the outside, where the Jee had it.

The Frontera makes a styling statement, together with what an older generation of motorists will remember as the running board or step, a roof rack and large bumpers or "nudge bars".

The Frontera's off-road performance is good even with soft tyres, Dunlop SP Qualifier, whose tread clogs with mud instead of throwing it off as good cross-country tyres should. The Frontera has a useful turning circle for a four-wheel-drive car, but few inessential gadgets. The windows in the Sport are manual and there is a big back seat, which folds flat, but otherwise not much luggage room.

Hooks in the floor for securing luggage are good, but the removable rear hard-top intended to turn the Frontera into a recreational beach-buggy Tonka Toy is a gimmick. It gains no prizes for practicality, although it may look good on sales brochures with topical themes.



Vauxhall's offering, the Frontera, similar to the Land-Rover Discovery in size and style but lacking its calibre

Emergency call: the police need a reliable vehicle to meet every requirement

Police forces pick an old favourite

Land-Rovers from the Solihull plant are still chosen by most constabularies, but rivals are emerging

A salesman said: "We might draw the line at fitting a Jacuzzi with gold taps." The remark did not come from an estate agent hit by a sudden attack of good taste but from a car salesman. He was discussing one of the Land-Rover range, vehicles that can be tailored to fit any specification by craftsmen at the plant in Solihull, West Midlands.

The unit ensures that the vehicles it produces for special customers are properly engineered and are safe and that the legendary reliability is not compromised.

Therefore, the Land-Rover range, hardly surprisingly, is still the favourite with Britain's police forces for motorway patrol and urban incident vehicles and mobile police control and incident centres.

However, before a standard vehicle goes into police service it is passed through the special vehicle operations (SVO) workshop. The Discovery, the newest model, which accounts for most police orders, is converted into the standard police model by fitting an upgraded electrical system. This includes an additional battery, towing equipment, a calibrated speedometer, extra mirrors,

map-reading lights and pockers for collapsible signs. The vehicles can have further fittings, but it is a tribute to the inbuilt strength of the range that modifications to the braking and suspension systems are seldom needed.

Many forces specify a pragmatic extending pole fitted behind and between the front seats, which raises the central roof access bar by more than 20ft to provide emergency lighting equipment. Winches can be added to the front or rear and inside, and sliding trays are mounted on aluminium runners for warning cones, signs, trolley jacks and emergency cutting and lifting equipment.

In the company jungle course at Solihull, police drivers are taught how to get the best from their vehicles off-road and how to use the full range's towing abilities in slippery conditions. Police mechanics are also shown in the company training workshops how to keep the vehicles in perfect condition.

This comprehensive package particularly attracts police customers, but other four-wheel-drive vehicles are making inroads.

DAVID YOUNG

JP Young & Sons

Sturdy defender in peace

Kuwait gave Land-Rover £8m orders after the Gulf war, writes Rodney Hobson

Even the chill winds of war can blow somebody some good. The Gulf war a year ago gave Land-Rover a welcome boost to exports at a time when the recession was hitting the UK sales of all motor manufacturers.

Nick Argent, a spokesman for Land-Rover, says: "When the Gulf war ended we took staff out from all parts of the business—marketing, engineers, mechanics and service support. We made a big push in the whole of the Middle East, particularly Kuwait."

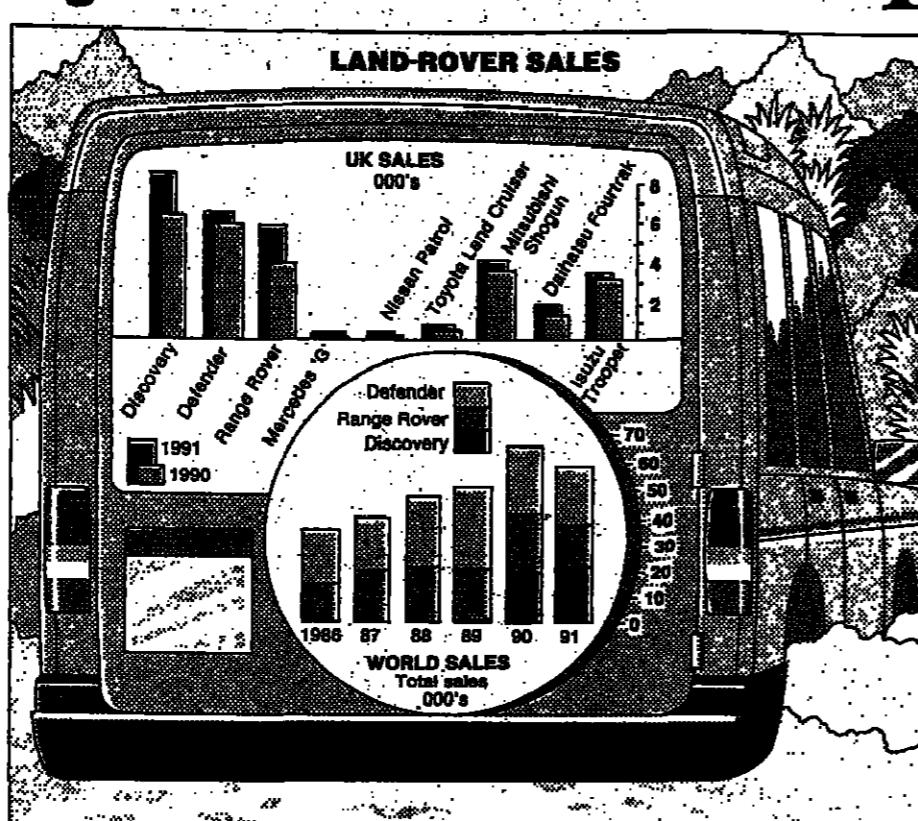
Land-Rover was immediately rewarded with an £8 million order from Kuwait to supply more than 400 vehicles. During the whole of last year sales to the region reached 2,000, an increase of 40 per cent over the 1990 figure.

The vehicles for Kuwait were ordered by the defence and medical ministries for use on ruined roads and in the desert. Orders were won in the face of competition from the Japanese and the United States.

Land-Rover did have an advantage. Its vehicles were popular with American forces during the war: for instance, they used the middle-of-the-range Discovery as a staff car.

The more basic Defender was a key vehicle for British forces, who gave it various roles: from a troop carrier, to a transporter for sophisticated navigation equipment to a field ambulance.

Despite the Gulf war boost, worldwide sales of Land-Rovers fell 12 per cent in 1991. The 1990 peak of



66,185 vehicles was nearly double that of the sales achieved four years earlier and the 1991 figure of 58,335 was still higher than the 1989 figure.

Despite competition and improved technology available to other car makers, Land-Rover remains the only motor manufacturer that is dedicated solely to four-wheel-drive vehicles. Land-Rover is also one of the few mass producers to make a vehicle that is instantly recognisable from the halcyon days of the 1950s.

The Land-Rover was born in the post-war years when the ethos was to make products that lasted. Since then 1.5 million have been sold and the company estimates that more than a million are still running.

The Defender, the work-

horse version of the Land-Rover, still looks like the square-shaped vehicle that made its debut at the 1948 Amsterdam Motor Show. The technology has changed enormously in the years up to the launch of the latest version last year, but its makers still claim that it can venture into areas impassable to other vehicles.

Buyers now have a greater variety of choice: hard or soft top; station wagon or pick-up; petrol or diesel. But it is still the vehicle for carrying bales of hay around a farm or taking a group of ten people on an outward-bound course.

The middle-range vehicle, the Discovery, was first sold in 1989, when little more than 1,000 were made. British drivers took 920 and

168 were exported to Italy. Unlike the Defender, it is designed primarily for the road and has to be a little less basic.

Improvements have been offered on the 1992 model. A five-door version has been added to the original three-door, fuel injection has been made available for higher vehicles.

Buyers now have a greater variety of choice: hard or soft top; station wagon or pick-up; petrol or diesel. But it is still the vehicle for carrying bales of hay around a farm or taking a group of ten people on an outward-bound course.

Mr Argent says: "The Discovery is in the leisure market. Typical users are a couple in their thirties or early forties with two or more children. They lead an active life and want to tow a horse-box or a boat, or have somewhere to stow their windsurfers."

Top of the range is the Range Rover, launched 22 years ago. Mr Argent says: "It

remains virtually unchallenged at the luxury end of the four-wheel market. Since the mid-1980s it has been firmly placed as a vehicle for the managing director or chief executive looking for something different."

Despite having the same pedigree as the basic Land-Rover, it has all the accoutrements expected in a luxury car, such as air-conditioning, leather upholstery, walnut woodwork, automatic transmission and anti-lock braking. The most expensive model, the Vogue SE, even has heated front seats as standard.

During the past five years there has been an extensive programme of change in all areas of the Range Rover, including the upgrading of the V8 fuel-injected engine from 3.5 to 3.9 litres and the re-engineering of the suspension to give better handling at higher speeds.

Land-Rover has sold vehicles at some time or another in virtually every country in the world, although it has a flexible attitude and is prepared to walk away if the basic is not worth the sales.

The next big export push is likely to be in Japan, where the Discovery was well received at the Tokyo Motor Show. Mr Argent says: "We have played the Japanese at their own game. They identify a market and target a vehicle to sell there. We saw that the Shogun and thought that we ought to be in that market."

Land-Rover already sells about 500 Range Rovers a year in Japan, a small figure that the company hopes will be boosted by the Discovery.

Mr Argent says: "We see potential for niche markets in Japan. It is not the easiest place to get into but it is getting easier. Tokyo may have its traffic problems but the country still has some of the fastest cars in the world."

More than just a smart accessory

Sales of Range Rovers have reached a new high

ALMOST HALF of all new Range Rovers are sold within the M25 orbit and only a fraction of those ever venture off-road.

Last year the four-wheel drive sector saw sales hit an all-time high even though the new car market suffered an overall slump of 21 per cent.

Land-Rover has sold vehicles at some time or another in virtually every country in the world, although it has a flexible attitude and is prepared to walk away if the basic is not worth the sales.

While it makes sense for farmers or mountain rescue teams to use four-wheel drive, what makes them so popular with motorists unlikely ever to fully exploit their rugged capabilities?

Chris Halsey, technical director of the Designers Guild, says his F-registered silver Range Rover is family transport for Sheila, his wife, and children, Tom and Lauren. The vehicle towers above the other cars parked in their terraced south London street. It is not a bit too much for just tooling around town?

Mr Halsey, a former Saab driver, realised the time had come to move away from conventional saloons when the arrival of a dog, named Poppy, made the family five.

"We needed them to move to a station wagon sort of vehicle, particularly since we go away quite a lot at weekends. The idea of a Volvo estate or something like it

didn't appeal. We hadn't thought of a Range Rover, and don't need one to drive off-road.

"But it is fairly indestructible, comfortable, bikes and skateboards can be thrown in the back without messing it up, an agricultural type vehicle is ideal from a point of view."

Mrs Halsey enjoys the power-steering and the high driving position which make driving in town easy, with the bonus that other drivers tend to back off if it comes to a squeak for space. They also like the security in the wet and on corners that the permanently engaged four-wheel drive offers.

MR AND MRS Halsey say the Range Rover image, however defined, is not an important factor, although they enjoy its idiosyncratic, even eccentric, barn-door styling.

Freelance photographer Denzil McNeelance uses his fire-engine-red Land-Rover 90, a short-wheelbase turbo diesel, for work, shopping and weekends away. Welded behind the two front seats is a steel padlocked box full of camera equipment.

Mr McNeelance makes no apologies for his choice of wheels. "I suppose I'm a bit of a poser." Since buying

however, considerations have come to outweigh the "street cred" value of his car.

He says: "I could have bought an ordinary van for the basic £10,000 asking price of the 90. There was nothing else I could buy for that price that excited me."

Speaking after a day photographing oak trees in a forest, he says: "Without the Land-Rover we would have been walking. In town, the power-steering helps parking and the driving position is like sitting on somebody's shoulders."

"One other advantage is that where I used to get tense and fraught in traffic, the diesel engine slows you down and relaxes you and whereas in an ordinary car you have to be aggressive to get anywhere, you just have to look aggressive in this."

Drawbacks include fuel consumption of only 22mpg and a top speed of around 70mph.

Set against that, residual values of such cars are hard to beat. Mr McNeelance, whose other car is a 1964 Jaguar MkII, says: "I suppose a Ford Fiesta would do the same job but it wouldn't be the same and I can't imagine getting rid of the Land-Rover whatever else I might drive."

Rumbling in the jungle

Owners can learn how to make the most of their pride and joy, while not ruining the countryside

For most town dwellers going off-road means negotiating a bomb site, a parking lot or a greasy car wash forecourt.

The permanent four-wheel drive of most off-road vehicles is perfectly adequate for almost all road and weather conditions, but many owners want more from their four-wheel drive vehicles. However, the capabilities of their vehicle often outstrip their driving ability.

Many manufacturers now offer training schools for owners wishing to get more from their pride and joy. One such course is with Land-Rover at the firm's Jungle Track, located at its Solihull production site.

So how do you drive off-road? The four-and-a-half mile Jungle Track boasts water troughs, concrete steps, gravel and mud traverses, and a Borneo jungle path, made of tree trunks lashed together and very slippery.

I took a Land-Rover Discovery TDI on the flat which is so challenging, it is used to weed out candidates hoping to qualify for the Camel Trophy rally.

Land-Rover's four-wheel

drive expert, Don Green, gives three main strands of advice.

First, when faced by a road or conditions likely to challenge an ordinary car, push over the short stubby lever. This allows the differentials to be locked and the transfer box to be engaged on the road. Also select the low radio gears. The jargon translates into a vehicle that will conquer the steepest hills while apparently defying gravity in the process.

Second, hills should be attacked in second gear and descended gently in first. Third, tuck your thumbs away as if feeding out a kite string so that you cannot hook them into the steering wheel. This way, if the front wheels kick back after hitting an obstacle and spin the steering wheel, you will not dislocate a thumb.

Also keep the windows shut in thick bush. The danger here is that branches bend back by the vehicle will whiplash and can slash arms. The temptation on the flat is to go much faster than is safe. The trick is to go steady, watch your route carefully for

obstacles and if necessary stop the vehicle and reconnoitre on foot.

While going up hills is mostly a charge, coming down requires self control.

The temptation is to dab the brakes, which could lose you control. If necessary, fold your legs beneath the seat to resist touching pedals and let the vehicle do the work.

Most daunting is fording deep waterholes without stalling or flooding the engine. You must maintain enough speed to create a smooth, gentle bow wave which pushes water out of the way. This also creates a vacuum at the rear of the engine, which prevents water flooding in.

One forgotten aspect of off-road driving is protection of the environment. Nick Argent, a Land-Rover spokesman, says: "We are not only teaching people how to drive off-road but how to drive off-road carefully without destroying the environment."

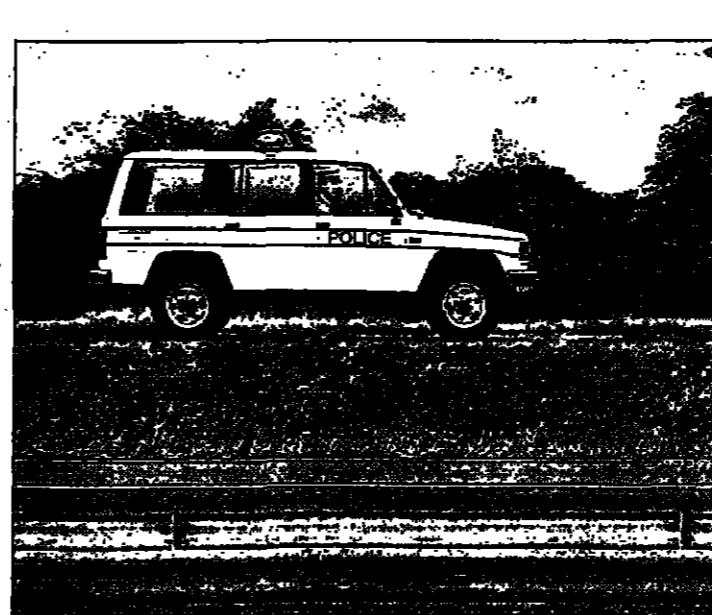
The Land-Rover experience costs £90, and details are available from Land-Rover on 021-722 2424.

VAUGHAN FREEMAN



Constable Country.

Constable Country.



An arresting sight over Constable's Vale.

A masterpiece in the Constabulary's view.

Powering over byways. Policing busy highways.

The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper is a work of art, however you care to depict it.

Built to take on the forces of nature, its rugged heavy duty chassis, tough compliant suspension and all round disc brakes inspire unshakeable confidence.

While power steering and free wheeling hubs complement impeccable handling on or off the road.

Further investigation reveals true artistry in power and performance.

2.6 petrol injection (running on unleaded or leaded fuel) or 2.8 diesel turbo engine harnessed to a 5 speed dual range, four-wheel drive transmission (or optional 4 speed automatic) on Citation petrol models.

On board creature comforts portray a picture of pure luxury; cloth upholstery, central locking and electric windows (on LWB models) are standard.

Citation models boast such hedonistic inclusions as air conditioning, four speaker stereo radio/cassette, cruise control (on petrol models), heated front seats with adjustable arm rests and a contoured multi-positional driver's seat.

And the pleasure doesn't pale even when you're presented with the jolly 'old bill': short wheel base from £12,898; long wheel base from £15,899!

Modest sums, you'll agree, for a master of the British landscape.

The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper. It's where you want to be.

ISUZU



All-purpose: Denzil McNeelance finds his Land-Rover 90 equally good in traffic

Count
reject
the
Optio

Salwan set to regain the winning thread

THE small field for the Cheltenham Hurdle at Huntingdon today contains three Triumph Hurdle entries, Amigos, Line Drummer and Salwan.

While Peter O'Sullivan will be hoping to see his colours carried to victory by Amigos, I think the advantage lies with Salwan, even though he was brought down at Uttoxeter ten days ago.

This Peter Bevan-trained four-year-old was a length behind and challenging the leader, Ugandan Affairs, when the latter fell at the last hurdle, bringing him down in the process.

Salwan had started a short-priced favourite for that handicap, the strength of winning his only previous races over hurdles, at Wolverhampton and Catterick. In hindsight the form of both those races stands up well.

At Wolverhampton, he beat Ring Of Fortune and High Grade, who have both won and been placed since, while at Catterick he easily accounted for Helios, subsequently a winner by six lengths there.

After winning first time out at Leicester Amigos then only managed third place behind Swift Sword and The Blue Boy at Cheltenham on New Year's day. He was subsequently moved up to second on the technical disqualification of the runner-up.

Line Drummer's form, which has been achieved on Lingfield's all-weather track,

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

does not compare with what the other two have achieved on.

Having beaten Baron Safe-guard at Folkestone five weeks ago, Tim Forster's Dublin Flyer is taken to repeat the treatment in the Fidesy Fen National Hunt Novices' Hurdle even though he is now 7lb worse off for that five-length win.

Jenny Pitman has a strong hand for the EBF Novices' Chase — which she won a year ago — now that she has decided to run both Black Moccasin and Vazon Bay.

As Vazon Bay has not progressed since that promising second behind Parson's Thorne at Cheltenham early in January, I am happy to side

Forster's Dublin Flyer can complete a double.

Rushing Wild due for promotion

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

RUSHING Wild started last year as a maiden, but went on to win two good-class open races. On his seasonal debut on Saturday, he showed impressive form to win the second division of the open at the South Poole Harriers point-to-point.

After leading throughout, he made light of his 7lb penalty, quickening clear from two out for a comfortable seven-length victory. His next outing will be at the Beaufort, but I will be surprised if Richard Barber, his trainer, does not soon step him up in class to hunter chasing.

GOING: GOOD

STAKES: 5f-1m, LOW TO MIDDLE NUMBERS BEST

1.50 DOROTHY L SAYER'S MAIDEN

STAKES (2f300): 5f-1m (4 numbers)

1-324 APPEALING TIMES 18 G Edin 6-97 - P Turner (7) 3

2-3112 SALLY'S SON 10 (CD) F W O'Gorman 6-93

3-240 MURMURING 17 (CD) F Dore 6-93

4-605 SECOND ADVENTURE 24 (D) F Murray Smith 4-77

5-0380 SAY YOU WILL 11 (V,C,F,S) M Naughton 6-93

6-044 TAPESTRY DANCER 5 M Hayes 4-77 - P Fox 5

7-005 TRICKY TRADE 14 K Hunt 4-94 - P Turner 7-11

8-001 CLEAR WAY 10 (V,M) Nolton 4-94 - P Fox 5

9-024 REB SPARKY 251 W Pearce 4-84 - S Webster 6

10-500 MAZIN 21 C Beaufort 4-72 - P Norton (6) 10

11-4424 SUNFIRE 10-1 Sunfire 4-72 - S Webster 6

12-1042 GALANTY EXPRESS 18 G Edin 6-97 - P Turner 7-11

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6-044 TAPESTRY DANCER 5 M Hayes 4-77 - P Fox 5

7-005 TRICKY TRADE 14 K Hunt 4-94 - P Turner 7-11

8-001 CLEAR WAY 10 (V,M) Nolton 4-94 - P Fox 5

9-024 REB SPARKY 251 W Pearce 4-84 - S Webster 6

10-500 MAZIN 21 C Beaufort 4-72 - P Norton (6) 10

11-4424 SUNFIRE 10-1 Sunfire 4-72 - S Webster 6

12-1042 GALANTY EXPRESS 18 G Edin 6-97 - P Turner 7-11

13-1042 HELEN INNICHENS CLAIMING

STAKES (3-Y-O): 2200m: 6f (6) (5)

1-324 APPEALING TIMES 18 G Edin 6-97 - P Turner (7) 3

2-3112 SALLY'S SON 10 (CD) F W O'Gorman 6-93

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Russian claims her tenth Olympic medal Smetanina steps up and rewrites the record books

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

ALTHOUGH there was no fanfare, no stadium and relatively few to offer her the acclaim she deserved, Raisa Smetanina yesterday rewrote an entire chapter of the Olympic record book. In the frozen forests of Les Saisies, the Russian cross-country skier helped her Unified Team to a gold medal in the 4 x 5km relay and set a series of records that are may never be threatened.

At 39 years of age, Smetanina became the oldest female gold medal-winner in any sport at a Winter Games since they first started in 1924. The medal extended her collection to an unparalleled ten, comprising four golds, five silvers and one bronze, making her the most successful athlete of either sex. And most remarkable of all, perhaps, the relay victory made her the first woman to win a medal at five consecutive Games.

She may even return to add to her haul even further. Although jubilant and exhausted, she announced her



retirement after the race ended, few were ready to take her at her word, for Smetanina has called it a day before. At Calgary in 1988, she won a bronze medal and said: "This must be the last one. I can quit contended."

Yesterday, she was still competing, still winning medals and still promising to bring down the curtain on her remarkable career:

"These are my fifth Games and I don't think I will be at Lillehammer [in 1994]," she said. "Two years seems a long time to wait. Maybe I'll go there as a tourist."

Tomba emerges for his defence

ALBERTO Tomba emerges from self-imposed exile in an attempt to retain his giant slalom crown in Val d'Isère today and become the first repeat champion in Olympic Alpine skiing history.

The Italian champion arrived by helicopter on Sunday from Sestriere, where he has spent the last two weeks apart from his brief foray to Albertville to carry the Italian flag at the opening ceremony.

Tomba, who plans to return to Sestriere after the race to prepare for Saturday's slalom title defence in Les Menuires, said staying away had helped to ease the pressure. As always, he is the man to beat with confidence-high after his seven wins on the World Cup circuit this season — the same number he achieved before his double-gold in 1988 at Calgary.

He needs no reminding

that the favourites have been consistently upstaged so far. "In the Olympic Games there are always big surprises, much more than in the World Cup," he said. "I've been out of competition for two weeks so I'm curious to know how I'll perform on the slope."

Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, has by contrast, been in the thick of the battle. After coming to grief in the downhill and combined downhill he broke his Olympic jinx by capturing the silver in Sunday's super-giant slalom.

Olympic organisers, relying on better weather ahead, confirmed yesterday that the postponed women's super-giant slalom in Meribel was expected to be staged this morning. The race was called off yesterday because of high winds and patches of dense fog on the 1,573-metre Corbey piste.

Age will certainly have no bearing on her decision: Smetanina's birthday is on February 29, therefore happens only once every four years and, according to the Russian, means she will be ten this year.

"It is very hard to distinguish between the medals and rate one higher than any of the others," she went on. "It's always hard to win a gold and it's been getting harder. Today, I won mainly because of my team-mates."

Indeed, amid the celebrations, it was easy to overlook the fact that Smetanina was by far the slowest of the four Unified Team members and owed an enormous debt to her colleagues. It was also to easy to forget all about Lyubov Egorova, who picked up her fourth medal of the Games and became its first triple gold medal-winner.

Norway came in 21.6sec behind for the silver medal while Italy finished in third place.

The previous oldest female gold medal-winner was Ludowika Jakobsson, of Finland, in the figure skating pairs of 1920.

Marja-Liisa Kirvesniemi, another Finn, who, like Smetanina, is also appearing in her fifth consecutive Olympics, missed out on the sixth medal of her career by 27 seconds as her team finished fourth. Kirvesniemi, who as Haimala in 1984 became the first woman to win three individual Nordic golds at one Winter Games, did not win any medals in her first two Olympics.

In the ice-hockey competition in Meribel, Germany qualified for the medal round yesterday with a 4-0 victory over Poland, relying on a strong defence and getting two goals from Ernst Koepf. Germany thus finished fourth in Group A.

It was a good day for the Germans: Gunda Niemann won her second Olympic gold medal to match Bonnie Blair, of the United States, as the most successful female speed-skater of the Games.

Niemann, aged 25, the winner of the 3,000 metres last week, dominated the 5,000m and led a German clean sweep of the medals.



Back again: Smetanina celebrates her latest cross-country medal yesterday

O'Reilly must be on guard

FROM JOHN HENNESSY IN ALBERTVILLE

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that the four-man bob team might cover itself with glory on Friday and Saturday, the event in which Britain has the most realistic chance of a medal — perhaps even more than one — is today. This is short-track speed skating, an exciting spectacle introduced into the Olympics for the first time and capable of taking the Games by storm.

The British team includes the world champion in Wilf O'Reilly, the world 1,000 metres (today's distance) runner-up, Matt Jasper, and the world bronze medal winners in the relay. Archie Marshall, the British trainer, expects all

three to go through to Thursday's quarter-final involving six competitors.

O'Reilly has been drawn in a field of only three, the other two of whom are unpredictable Asians. Two go through but oddly enough, this is not a good draw, according to Marshall, "because it reduces Willie's options to surprise and that's one of his great strengths." Marshall explains that the leading contenders will be most vulnerable in this heat since "they are focused on the later stages of the competition and are apt to let their guard drop."

Wilf O'Reilly, aged 27, is one of the best tacticians, able to dominate a race from the

front or the back by his sheer presence and personality.

"He can skate right (close to the inside position)," Marshall says, "and knows how to block fairly." The others know he is the man to beat.

Jasper's biggest problem is that he doesn't know how good he is, his silver medal in the world championships in Sydney notwithstanding.

"When there is no space he will still find it," Marshall says. "He could go out in a heat or scrape through and then destroy anyone."

Nick Gooch, the third British skater, was a member of Britain's relay team in Sydney but, at 19, may lack the experience to be a challenger.

RUGBY UNION

French press is in a sombre mood as inquest begins

FROM PHILIP JACOBSEN IN PARIS

OF ALL the doleful headlines in the French press that followed last Saturday's controversial events at the Parc des Princes, it was *Libération* which best caught the prevailing mood of sadness and regret, tinged with bitterness.

"Ah, if only the victory could have been more beautiful!" it exclaimed.

Like almost every other newspaper, *Libération* acknowledged that England fully deserved to win and would have won under any circumstances — "but has there ever been a more rotten end to a match more rotten, after such a promising start?"

Writing for the same pages, the distinguished former international, Pierre Villepreux, had harsh words for the "stupid aggression" of the French pack. "At this level, it is essential, for rugby and for the public, to select players able to understand the difference between what is and is not tolerable."

From the heartland of French rugby in the southwest came the influential voice of *Midi Olympique*, declaring in huge front-page type: "Never again like this!"

In a signed editorial, Henri Garcia, Hilditch's referee, had plunged the game into "the worst disorder we have ever seen in an international," but the traditional French reaction to international defeat — hang the ref — provided no solution to a far deeper malaise in the game in France.

Last Saturday's young and largely inexperienced team was now cast as scapegoats for far more serious errors that had been committed over recent years by the men in charge of the game in France.

The "warlike" campaign in the British *tabloid* press ahead of the match had made it inevitable that French rugby would be under the magnifying glass on Saturday. Garcia noted: "But the French XV also paid for the faults of the French Rugby Federation."

To *Le Figaro*, the central issue now is to discover what is responsible for the "incomprehension" that persists in rugby between France and the British.

Yarranton praises English restraint

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE call from France for greater discussion on the use and application of rugby union's laws, in the wake of Saturday's "descent into night", was made it inevitable that French rugby would be under the magnifying glass on Saturday. In a signed editorial, Henri Garcia argued that while the responsibility of the referee, Stephen Hilditch, for what happened was "directly engaged" those shortcomings should not be allowed to undermine the grim reality of what is wrong with French rugby.

"It is a moment of grave crisis and for exactly that reason we need to avoid persecutions and summary executions and be brave enough to confront the real

five nations meet to discuss such matters.

Peter Yarranton, the president of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), yesterday praised the restraint of the English right forwards.

"The supreme accolade must go to our front five in terms of restraint," he said. "Brian Moore's face was covered in scratches, bruises and weals that bear no relation to rugby as I know it."

Stephen Hilditch, who refereed Saturday's match, has been somewhat embarrassed by the events of the weekend.

"I don't think I did anything other than what a referee should have done in that situation," he said, which begs the question of whether he would have had to send off two Frenchmen for foul play if the domestic game in France was played with the appropriate degree of control, by both competitors and officials.

France's games against Scotland on March 7 and Ireland on March 21 will be handled by Fredrik Burger, South Africa's leading referee.

Southern-hemisphere observers of Saturday's match would have queried whether the final scrum should have been permitted. The contention, in the interests of safety and after prolonged study of the dynamics of scrummaging, is that in the absence of two specialist front-row men it is dangerous to set a scrum.

Australians having second thoughts

BY DAVID HANDS

THE proposed four-match visit by Australia to South Africa in August may cause the deferment of retirement plans by leading Australian players. Nick Farr-Jones, who captained Australia to World Cup victory last November, and Simon Poidevin, the flank forward, may both amend their plans.

Farr-Jones said yesterday that he would decide later this month whether to stay out of the representative game this year, as planned. "The major factor is to say that my heart wants to play this year," he said. "But I have to decide whether my head and body will give that commitment."

Bob Dwyer, the Australian coach, who is now looking at a year of eight internationals, has not excluded any members of the World Cup squad from his plans. It also appears that rugby league will not make its customary raids on the Wallabies, not this year at any rate. However, an international against South Africa may not affect the plans of several English players to retire.

It is widely anticipated that Wade Dooley and Mickey Skinner will join Peter Winterbottom in stepping down from international rugby after the five nations' championship, while Rory Underwood, Simon Halliday and Jonathan Webb are also likely to do so in the interests of their respective families and careers.

England plan to play South Africa on November 14 at Twickenham. Will Carling, the England captain, said yesterday: "I don't think South Africa will have a major effect. Some players have made up their minds that this is their last championship and the fact that the game is in November would virtually mean committing themselves to another season."

CYCLING

Kelly sprints to success in Valencia

BY PETER BRYAN

SEAN Kelly, who breathed fire into the Tour of Lombardy last October to win the final classic of the season, obviously wintered well in Ireland.

His first victory of 1992 in Sunday's 123-mile Trofeo Luis Puig at Valencia demonstrated the strength he retains even though his 36th birthday is not far off.

It was a touch of the old Kelly sprint that got him first over the line from a pack of 40. He had been active in a seven-strong breakaway group, which included the Tour de France winner, Miguel Indurain, only to have the chance of success severely reduced when caught by the main pack of 30 half a mile from the end.

Kelly, now riding for the Spanish Lorus team, acknowledges that younger opponents are often faster in the sprint, but he took his chance with inches covering the first ten finishers. Today, Kelly starts in the six-day Tour of Valencia.

SNOOKER

Costly setback for McManus

BY PHIL YATES

MARK Bennett, of Wales, produced an unexpected 5-4 victory over Alan McManus in the fourth round of the Pearl Assurance British Open at the Assembly Rooms, Derby, yesterday following an unconventional build-up to what is the second-most lucrative tournament as a professional.

After losing 5-3 to McManus in the last 16 of the Asian Open in Bangkok three weeks ago, Bennett abandoned practice completely. He was so disillusioned by his performance in Thailand, he said, that he lost

Making no attempt to compromise his natural belligerence, Bennett yesterday cast caution to the winds as he established a 4-2 lead.

McManus, the "young player of the year" in 1991,

all enthusiasm for the game, went into Bangkok after beating Bennett, looked as if he might take his expected place in the fifth round when he levelled at 4-4. But he was unable to carry through this recovery.

Alain Robidoux, the world No. 13, produced an isolated 10-9 break during an unconvincing 5-3 win over Mark Rowing, of Doncaster.

Roberto Recchioni, the 1985 British Open champion from South Africa, beat Jason Smith 5-1.

RESULTS: Fourth round: M. Bennett (Wales) 5-4 A. McManus (Eng); M. Robidoux (South Africa) 5-3 M. Rowing (Eng); S. Recchioni (SA) 5-1 J. Smith (Eng).

Tomorrows: 09.00: Cross country: men's giant slalom; 10.45: Alpine Speed; 11.00 and 17.00: Alpine combined; 12.15: women's giant slalom; 12.30: Speed skating: men's 1000m, 17.30; Short track speed skating: heats; 12.00 and 20.00: ice hockey.

(all times GMT)

Regal Trophy to include new teams

TWO French teams will take part in next season's Regal Trophy if plans discussed in Perpignan at the weekend between the Rugby Football League (RFL) and their executive of the RFL said.

"We are told that there is a sum of £12 million in European Community funds which has been laid aside purely for the development of sport throughout Europe, and some of this money can be used to develop rugby league."

In addition, there will also be a six-team European competition in January between two teams each from France, Britain and the old Soviet Union. David Oxley, the chief executive of the RFL said:

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The French federation is confident that in addition to European Community funds, sponsorship can be obtained for the tournament. Of the suggestion that two French sides should enter the Regal Trophy next season, Oxley said: "The sponsors, John Player, are extremely keen on the idea."

17 at Carcassonne and Perpignan, with the final at Béziers."

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Houllier and Platini have found ideal blend

By CLIVE WHITE

The recent appointment of Kevin Keegan as manager of Newcastle United might have been viewed rather less sceptically, indeed cynically, by some people had they stopped to consider the enormous contribution that former great players can make and have made in recent years in other countries.

England, typically, has been a bit behind the times when it has come to finding a way to utilise an individual's special talent and experience beyond his playing days. Even when they stay in the game, they often seemed to be wheeled off into those areas where their knowledge is of least use to the sport.

Not so in West Germany, where that country's international supremacy became even more pronounced after

turning to Franz Beckenbauer. The Netherlands plan to follow suit by appointing Johann Cruyff as their manager after outstanding success at club level with Barcelona, and tomorrow we in this country may be given some idea of what effect Michel Platini had on the French national team and its revival when it takes on England at Wembley.

Great players do not always make great managers. We are told. In the case of Beckenbauer and Platini, nobody would suggest that either was a great manager, in the English sense of the word, or even a great coach, but they are inspirational figures who have much to offer in the right set-up with the right people alongside them.

In France, the right-hand support is provided by Gérard Houllier, the technical director of the French Foot-

ball Federation, who is also coach to the national team. Houllier is an academic who returned to football, his first love, at a stage in his life when most men would have given up on the dream.

As a youngster of some promise he was forbidden by his father to follow a professional career in the game. Yet, later, he succeeded for several years in running parallel lives as a lecturer at a high school of commerce and coach to a semi-professional team, until his success at the latter offered him the opportunity to graduate as a sportsman, too, at full professional level with Lens. Later, he steered Paris Saint Germain to only the second league championship success in their history.

In his early twenties, he taught for a year at a comprehensive school in Liverpool where he soon

discovered that there was only one choice in life that mattered. "The first question they asked me in the staff room was not where I came from in France but was I red or blue and, if neither, I had better make my mind up soon, which I did. I chose



Liverpool." In later years, he said that his particularly enjoyed the "Latin/Anglo-Saxon game" of Kenny Dalglish. Houllier, who in fact comes from Boulogne, was invited to join the French Football Federation in 1988 at a time when the national

team was "in rags" and in November of that year the Platini-Houllier partnership was forged in succession to the ill-fated Henri Michel. The French have not looked back since.

Within five months, they had embarked on a record run of 23 games without defeat, stretching across almost four years and come to Wembley having won nine consecutive games. After the players, Platini was the most important reason for their success, Houllier said with a modesty which one suspects

of which won the 1988 European under-21 championship, is not expected to reach full maturity until the World Cup finals in the United States.

Platini and Houllier, through circumstance as much as choice, have tried to marry natural French finesse with some of those Teutonic-type qualities which battered them into submission in the World Cup semi-finals of 1982 and 1986.

"Michel is not sure if the old team of himself, Giresse, Tigana, Lacombe, and the rest would be as successful today," Houllier said. "The game has evolved into a much quicker spectacle. As he says, the great side in which he played seldom won away. The new one may be technically less gifted but it is mentally and physically more strong — like the English."

Record crowd inspires Lens to a victory against the French league leaders

Marseilles shrug off defeat

By PETER ROBINSON

CONFIDENCE is rarely in short supply at Marseilles, and with good reason. The club has the French league in a stranglehold and has shown little sign of releasing its grip while winning the last three championships. Defeats, rare though they may be, are shrugged off with barely a second thought.

This weekend was typical. Marseilles were some way below their best at Lens, lost for the third time this season and saw their long-established lead at the top of the table cut to just a point. Meanwhile, AS Monaco, the now traditional pretenders to their crown, won to step up their challenge.

Yet the situation has been met, publicly at least, with a genial Gallic shrug. Raymond Goethals, the club's coach, may be Belgian, but he

caught the mood as well as any when he said: "We know we may well have to wait until the last match of the season for Marseilles to be champions, but we have for the last three seasons." No soul searching, then, as long as history continues to repeat itself.

Lens should indeed prove to have been a one-off. A record crowd of 49,000 inspired an otherwise anonymous mid-table team to a 2-1 victory against the most powerful side in the country, Basile Boli, likely to face England at Wembley tomorrow night, scored Marseilles' goal, after his brother, Roger, opened the scoring for Lens.

Monaco had already made the most of their visit to Nantes by the time Marseilles had slipped on Saturday night. On Friday, a goal by

Rui Barros, the Portuguese forward, was enough to secure a valuable away win.

Real Madrid, criticised in recent weeks after a sharp drop in form, bounced back in Spain. They thumped Athletic Bilbao 5-0 at home.

Gheorghe Hagi crowning a dazzling display with three goals and Hugo Sanchez getting in on the act with his party-piece, an overhead bicycle kick. The victory was Real's first in Leo Beenhakker's second spell as coach.

If Hagi's form has captivated Spanish eyes in recent weeks then Roberto Baggio's has entranced the Italians. Since the return of Serie A after its winter break, Baggio has been superb for Juventus and was at his best in Sunday's 2-1 defeat of Atalanta, scoring a memorable winner.

Arrigo Sacchi, the manager of the Italian national side, said after the game: "I just can't think of a national team without Baggio. No other player can offer us what he can. He's just too important."

AC Milan, strangely subdued, could only draw 0-0 at Fiorentina, a result that cut their championship lead to four points.

No doubt about the most remarkable game in Europe over the weekend: Antwerp, safe and sound in eighth place in the Belgian first division, suffered the rudest of awakenings with an 8-2 home defeat by Germinal Ekeren. "I've never experienced anything like this," the Antwerp coach, Walter Meeuws, said. "It's bizarre and it hurts a lot."

And Meeuws was not alone in his pain. With the score at 5-1 and the humiliation showing no sign of abating, a handful of supporters walked on the pitch and held a sit-in to claim their money back. Eventually, their point made, they let the players return and the rout proceeded. Nevertheless, Günther Hofmann found the game to his liking: the Ekeren forward scored five times.



Passing phase: Le Tissier hones his skills during England's training session yesterday for the match with France tomorrow. Report, page 32

ATHLETICS

The golden girl who may miss out on a fortune

By DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IN A country where you could save for years just to buy a Trabant and grow old waiting for an apartment, Karin Krabbe had her own flat by the age of 18. "Under the old system I lived very well, I was able to travel, I had money," she said. All that was asked in return by the East German state system was that she maintained her potential to become the world's fastest woman.

By 1990, aged 20, she was Europe's champion in the 100 and 200 metres, a year later the world champion in both. Had she not been found guilty at the weekend by the German Athletics Federation (DLV) of a drugs offence, and suspended for four years, she would have remained on course to become the golden girl of the Barcelona Olympics this summer.

Krabbe had been built on state support but, when the wall came down, she filled her tank with capitalism. Now that the wheels are falling off, she stands to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in race appearance money and commercial deals.

When East Germany was subsumed by Germany, she became one of Nike's prize assets. Her athletic achievements and elegance, her blonde hair and green eyes — green, she insisted, not blue — combined to sway the marketing men: she became known as the face that launched a thousand sponsorships.

Sport had brought her a wealth which was probably beyond her imagination when she had been a kindergarten teacher earning £30 a month before the collapse of the system. Monte Carlo, home of the rich and famous, seemed an appropriate place three months ago for her to be receiving her award as the International Amateur Athletic Federation woman athlete of 1991.

She is to fight the ban in court. "I'm not giving up," she said yesterday. The DLV said that the sample she had given at a random drug test in South Africa last month had been tampered with. The sample had tested negative. "I just can't fathom it," Krabbe said "and say over and over again, 'we are innocent'."

Krabbe, and the two athletes suspended with her, Grit Breuer and Silke Möller, have until March 15 to file an appeal with the DLV's legal commission. A subsequent court decision would be final. Krabbe was barely into her teens when she left her parents' cramped flat to live in a hostel next to the Neubrandenburg club, where the best East German athletes were housed. Though her parents lived only ten minutes away, she visited them no more frequently than at weekends. Thomas Springstein, her coach from the age of 16, said that he had "first picked her from a group of young athletes for her good proportions."

Neubrandenburg club members won nine gold medals at the European championships. Grit Breuer, now suspended with Krabbe, returned there from Split with two, saying soon afterwards: "It is because of the system I achieved so much success. There has been no pressure on me to do anything I did not want to do."

Krabbe's sudden and dramatic displays of brilliance in Split and Tokyo came after a trough of form on both occasions. She removed herself from the circuit for several weeks in the build-up to the championships. That seemed remarkable and when she appeared at Crystal Palace in June her demeanour was of a woman who would rather have been doing something else.

IN BRIEF

Wembley keeps the Show

THE Horse of the Year Show is to remain at its traditional venue at Wembley, after the British Show Jumping Association (BSJA) completed a three-year deal.

The BSJA had considered moving to to Birmingham, Manchester or Sheffield.

Wales must qualify

Golf: Wales will compete in the 22-nation world qualifying event for the Dunhill Cup at the Royal Hong Kong club from March 26 to 29.

Late changes

Hockey: Bernie Cotton, the Great Britain manager, made two late changes in the party of 16 which leaves today for Karachi to take part in the Champions Trophy tournament. John Shaw and Stephen Batchelor dropped out and were replaced by Chris Mayer and Soma Singh.

Dorrie runs

Athletics: Katrin Dorrie, from Germany, who finished fourth in last year's World Marathon Cup, will run the ADT London Marathon on April 12.

Flat start

Horse racing: Flat racing in the Paris region gets underway today at Saint-Cloud, where Bruce Raymond renews his association with the John Hammond-trained Varese in the Prix A Tempo over a mile. Raymond won on Varese at Cagnes-sur-Mer last month.

Ripley's first

Rowing: Andy Ripley and Roger Utley, the former England rugby union internationals, finished in first and second places in the senior masters section of the world indoor championships in Boston. Ann-Marie Dryden, of Thames Tradesmen, won the women's lightweight event.

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THE TIMES SPORT

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18 1992

Taylor returns to discarded sweeper system

Keown likely to be given shadow role on Papin

By STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND are to return to the system which was unexpectedly introduced during the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy and which served them so well there. Tonight at Loftus Road and, by implication, tomorrow night at Wembley, they will line up against France with three central defenders.

The formation was brought in by Bobby Robson, with the wholehearted encouragement of his senior internationals, initially to counteract the Netherlands in Sardinia 20 months ago. The courageous experiment worked so effectively that it was maintained until England were eliminated in the semi-final on penalties by the eventual champions, West Germany.

Graham Taylor at first left intact the design of his predecessor but it was soon abandoned, along with several of Robson's most regular representatives. Now, for the first

practice matches in the build-up to the European championship finals in June, he is expected to restore the so-called sweeper system.

The phrase is strictly inaccurate. Whereas the continental sweeper lies deep and the foreign libero often advances to fill a creative role, England merely use the first central defender to cover his two colleagues in the conventional way and both full backs are pushed forward to broaden in the midfield.

Since many of the top domestic clubs have used the method, albeit intermittently, it is not alien to the members of the national squad. Indeed, those who featured in the World Cup success unanimously agreed that they preferred it. Taylor, though, is not yet convinced that it should be consistently employed.

He concedes that there are occasions when it is ideal

"Sometimes, you have to man-mark people, especially when they are world-class players," he said yesterday. Jean-Pierre Papin, France's prolific centre forward, fits comfortably into that bracket.

The responsibility of shadowing Papin, which would doubtless have been carried by Paul Parker had he been available, is likely to be borne by Martin Keown. Few defenders are more mobile than the 25-year-old from Everton. He may be as graceful as a water buffalo, but he is as quick as a gazelle.

Des Walker is no slouch either and, with Mark Wright returning to his former covering position, Taylor plans to offer Papin "as little space as possible to hurt us".

The reserve unit to protect David Seaman in tonight's B game will be Gary Pallister, Keith Curle and Gary Mabbutt, the captain. Like the five other uncapped players in the side, Curle's chances of being included in the party for Sweden are limited. "I'm not looking to go into the finals of the European championship with players who have no international experience at all," Taylor said.

"Realistically, I've got only three matches in which to experiment because I don't want to bring in newcomers against either Hungary or Brazil in May."

Paul Ince, Paul Merson, Paul Stewart and Carlton Palmer, as well as Curle, must presumably make an immediate impression if they are to earn promotion in time. Two of the other novices, both from Southampton, may be able 24 hours later to make a more significant impact.

Alan Shearer, the club's leading goal scorer, could strike up a new partnership with Gary Lineker, especially if Alan Smith fails to respond to treatment for a dead leg. Matthew Le Tissier was not even in the Southampton team six weeks ago but he may also be chosen, if only as a substitute.

Taylor confirmed that Chris Woods would keep his place in goal in spite of his shaming experience on Saturday, when he conceded seven at Highbury. Two of those who bear him, Ian Wright and Merson, have been invited to train their sights on the French juniors.

TEAM: England B: D Seaman (Arsenal), K Curle (Manchester City), A Dorigo (Leeds), P Stewart (Tottenham), G Mabbutt (Tottenham), G Palmer (Manchester United), P Ince (Man Utd), P Merson (Arsenal), I Wright (Arsenal), C Palmer (Sheffield Wednesday), A Simon (QPR). Substitutes to be announced tomorrow.

Jones will sit out Monday cup-tie

By LOUISE TAYLOR

VINNIE Jones will be restricted to a seat in the stand for Chelsea's FA Cup sixth round tie against either Sunderland or West Ham United on March 9. He will be suspended after accumulating more than 21 penalty points when booked for a tackle three seconds into Chelsea's fifth round win against Sheffield United last Saturday.

The sixth round tie has been moved to the Monday to fit in with the wishes of BSkyB, who will show it live. Since BBC will transmit the match between either Ipswich Town or Liverpool and Aston Villa on the previous day, the ties featuring Portsmouth or Middlesbrough against Nottingham Forest, and Bolton Wanderers or Southampton versus Norwich City will be the only ones taking place on the traditional Saturday Cup slot.

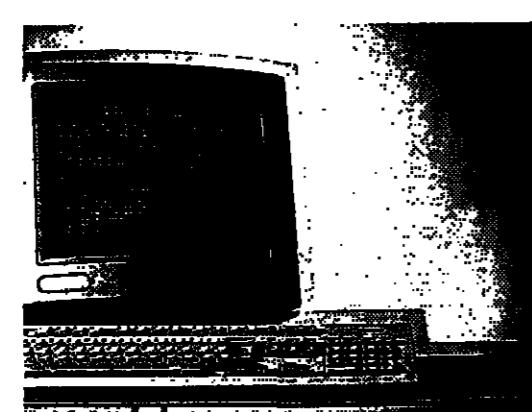
Blackburn Rovers, the sec-

ond division leaders, are likely to be without Mike Newell, their £1.2 million signing from Everton, in attack for the remainder of the season. While Newell fractured a shin on Saturday against Newcastle United, David Speedie, the leading scorer with 19 goals, was playing his last match before starting a three-match suspension.

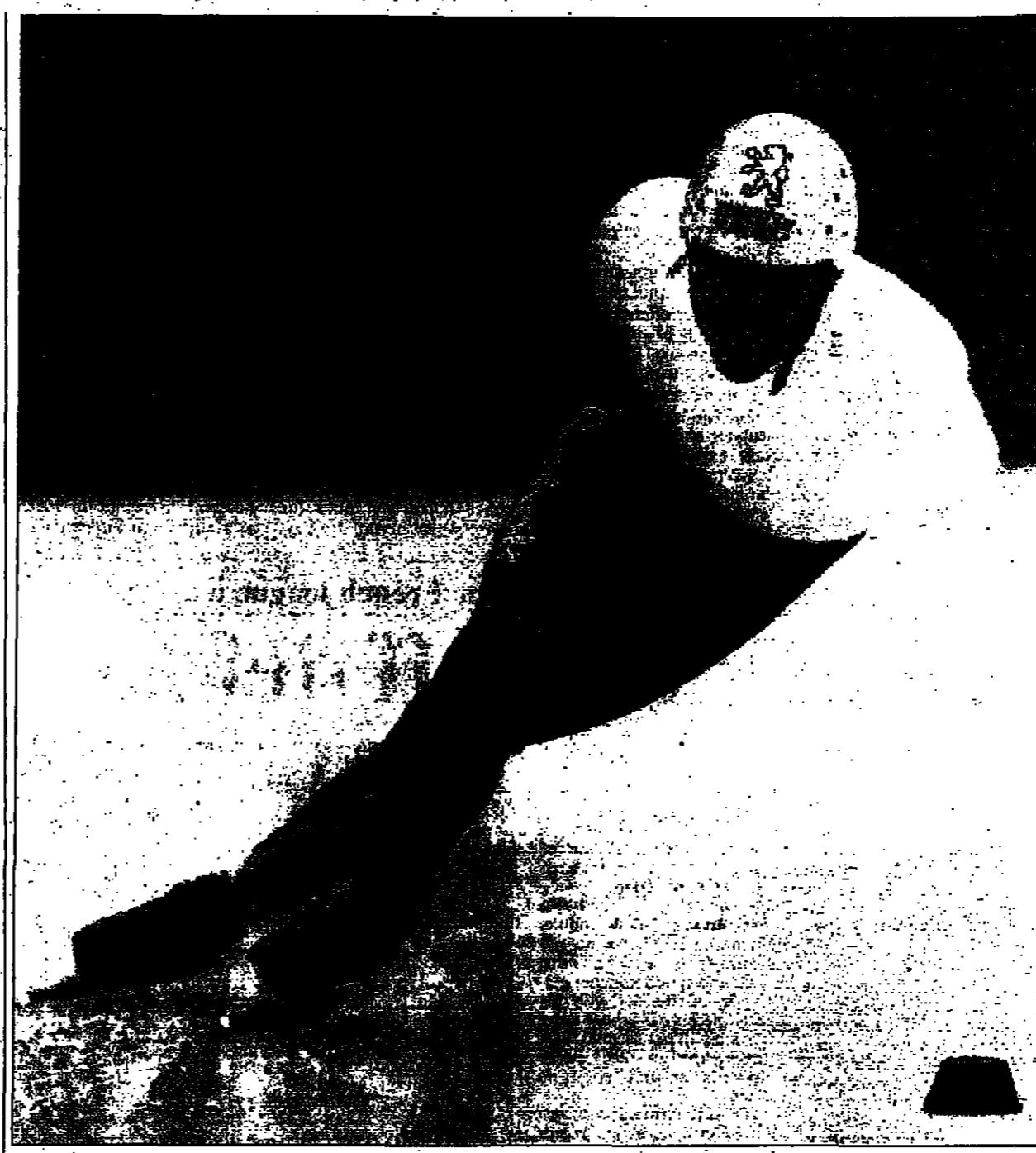
Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, yesterday made his first signing — Brian Kiddine, the central defender, on a month's loan from Oldham Athletic.

■ Zarich: The Commonwealth of Independent States can continue to represent the former Soviet Football Federation until July. Fifa, the game's governing body, decided yesterday thus sanctioning the CIS team's participation in this summer's European Championship finals in Sweden.

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Final bend: O'Reilly, a contender for a gold medal in the short track speed skating at the Winter Olympics, gets in some final preparations before today's first heat. O'Reilly on guard, page 30

Hard men have to be stopped

Rob Andrew, of England, examines the ramifications of the weekend's dramatic rugby union events in Paris

THE problem confronting the French coach, Pierre Berbizier, is right in front of his nose. Two players were sent off in Saturday's international in Paris for offences which threatened not only those who play the sport but the game of rugby union as a whole.

In my view, there is no

point in playing rugby football if that is going to continue. And so we have to see what Berbizier does now. From my office, here in Toulouse, I can tell you that I believe French rugby will react strongly to what happened. They have got to do something and I hope the action will be positive.

I find this affair sad, both for the game and French rugby.

Because the French have some of the best rugby players in the world. If they just got on with playing the game, they would be outstanding.

Much of Saturday's match in Paris proved the point because, after half-an-hour, we were under the cosh and we knew it. We didn't have the ball, we were not playing that well and we were struggling. You get into that kind of situation and you begin to wonder whether you will find

a way out of it. It was hard to see one at the time.

The French are not only strong but very quick. Their tackles are hard and they hurt. By the very nature of the sport, it is a physically demanding game but what ruined so much of the day was that just two individuals lost their cool completely.

I believe the difference between the sides was in our attitudes and perhaps more accurately, our intrinsic characteristics.

International rugby these days requires great patience, that is very difficult to attain. There are several examples of this patience within the England side; in Dublin last season when things were not going our way for a long time and also at Murrayfield this season when we were having such a bad first half. On Saturday, too, in Paris.

Each time we kept our patience. Yes, we stayed cool.

You need patience and cool allied to the skill in such circumstances. You cannot have players going around doing things which could maim others. What is the point of playing such a game? We have families at home and jobs to go back to on Monday morning. I must concede I have no sympathy for players who do such dangerous things, wherever they come from.

As a team, we were not proud to have to go through a game with such incidents.

That is why the overall lesson has to be for the people responsible for running the game. We are trying to promote rugby as a leading world sport. Play our sport, it is a great game, we are saying to parents and children. But how can you expect mothers to encourage their sons when they see things like this in our sport? Such events set the game back.

To have our victory tinged by these incidents was also damaging to the sport. Everyone should have been talking about the match and our win but instead, the sendings off captured the headlines. No sport can be happy at that.

■ Interview by Peter Bills

Ridgeon wins his fight to return

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS just like old times on Sunday watching a Colin Jackson-Jon Ridgeon one-two. And it was just like old times yesterday seeing Ridgeon's name on the British team-sheet.

Four years after his last international championship selection, Ridgeon has been picked to compete in the European indoor championships in Genoa the weekend after next. At his peak, Ridgeon won a 1987 world championship silver medal in the 110 metres hurdles. But after he had finished fifth in the 1988 Olympic Games, grave doubts were raised about his future in the sport.

But it is an athlete of no ordinary determination who spends five hours a day every day, month after month, undergoing physiotherapy to combat Achilles tendon trouble.

That was in 1989. His reward when he got over the problem with his left tendon was for the right one to flare up in 1990. He made one fleeting appearance for Britain, in an indoor match against France in 1989, but

metres hurdles in Genoa. But it will provide a useful platform for the Olympic summer to follow.

BRITISH TEAM: Men: 80m: J Livingston (Sheffield), J John (Newcastle), 200m: M Ross (Sheffield), G Coddington (Sheffield), D Grindley (Wigan), 800m: Steele (Longwood), S White (Middlesbrough), 1,500m: J McErlane (Sheffield), 5,000m: J Walker (Sheffield), H Teape (Enfield), N Walker (Caversham), J Sollings (Bromley), B Reilly (Croydon), D Gough (Preston), D McErlane (Sheffield), A Ashurst (Sheffield), S. Short (Preston), G Edwards (Bolton), W. Hall (Lancaster).

Women: 80m hurdles: K Morley-Brown (Sheffield), S. Agnew (Sheffield), H. Williams (Sheffield), S. P. Farnworth (Croydon), High jump: D Marti (Bromley), J Jennings (Wivenhoe), L. Haggart (Croydon), D. Gough (Preston), M. Gammie (Winton and St. George), Marathon: C Court (Sheffield).

Krabbe's decline, page 31

MARK McCaughan, of Hong Kong, the No. 5 seed, beaten in straight sets by Jim McCann, of Scotland, was the first seeded player eliminated from the Midland Bank world bowls championship at Preston Guild Hall yesterday, when unpredictability was a feature of the day.

Earlier Jim Baker, of Ireland, who turns 34 today, of New Zealand, in straight sets. The Belfast man recovered from 2-5 in each of the first two sets. Dispatching Baldwin 7-2 in the third set, Baker, if he is to be believed, surprised even himself. "I'm not playing often enough to stand a chance," he said, but his next opponent would be advised to take his assessment with a pinch of salt.

Earlier Jim Baker, of Ire-

Pole lets Nippon off the hook

FROM BOB ROSS
IN SAN DIEGO

A BROKEN spinaker pole cost Ville de Paris, the French yacht skippered by Marc Pajot, a strong winning chance towards the end of her match with Nippon, skippered by Chris Dickson, on the first day of the second round robin in the America's Cup challenger elimination series here.

Nippon, of Japan, the points score joint-leader, gained an early break in the light and unstable seven-knot breeze to round the first mark 55 seconds ahead. Still in very light air, she extended

that lead to 4min 16sec on the mark. From there Ville de Paris steadily closed and rounded the last windward beat only 37 seconds behind.

But on the run to the finish, she was unable to use the spinaker pole to project her running genoa efficiently beyond the bow and Nippon went away to win by 1min 41sec.

Spirit of Australia (Peter Gilmore) qualified with a new keel and change of mast position, went down by 12min 12sec to New Zealand, the joint-leader skippered by Rod Davis.

Spirit collided before the start with New Zealand and

incurred a 270-degree penalty turn. The collision provided an opportunity to penetrate the secret surrounding the keels.

Gilmore said: "They got a good look at our keel and we got a good look at theirs; it was a little like a mirror image. We were pretty happy with what we saw."

Gilmore's remarks have led to speculation that both yachts have "tandem" keels, following the general concept discarded last week by Dennis Connor's Stars & Stripes. Two fins could be seen on the bow of Spirit from the media boat; presumably a ballast bulb is suspended from them.

España 92 (Pedro Campos) gained an advantage of 25 seconds at the start to beat Challenge Australia (Phil Thompson) by 5min 46sec.

On the defenders' course, faster on all the upwind legs, bear Stars & Stripes by 4min 33sec.

RESULTS: Challenge: Second round: Robins Nippon (Ville de Paris), 1min 41sec; 3. More di Verona (Ville de Paris), 12:12sec; 4. Progresso politico (Spain), 1:46; 5. America (USA), 1:48; 6. Zind (France), 1:50; 7. Imre Khan (Pakistan), 1:52; 8. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:54; 9. Zafar Jaffer (Pakistan), 1:56; 10. Shahid Akram (Pakistan), 1:58; 11. Saleem Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 12. Waqar Younis (Pakistan), 1:59; 13. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 14. Imran Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 15. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 16. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 17. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 18. Zafar Jaffer (Pakistan), 1:59; 19. Saleem Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 20. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 21. Imran Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 22. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 23. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 24. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 25. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 26. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 27. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 28. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 29. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 30. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 31. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 32. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 33. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 34. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 35. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 36. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 37. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 38. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 39. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 40. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 41. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 42. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 43. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 44. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 45. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 46. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 47. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 48. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 49. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 50. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 51. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 52. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 53. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 54. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 55. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 56. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 57. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 58. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 59. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 60. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 61. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 62. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 63. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 64. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 65. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 66. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 67. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 68. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 69. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 70. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 71. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 72. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 73. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 74. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 75. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 76. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 77. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 78. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 79. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 80. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 81. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 82. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 83. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 84. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 85. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 86. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 87. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 88. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 89. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 90. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 91. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 92. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 93. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 94. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 95. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 96. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 97. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 98. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 99. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 100. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 101. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 102. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 103. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 104. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1:59; 105. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 106. Asif Javed (Pakistan), 1:59; 107. Tariq Khan (Pakistan), 1:59; 108. Wasim Akram (Pakistan), 1

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Out of
World
Cup

HERITAGE
Can Elgar's
cottage cope
with a visitor's
centre?



LIFE & TIMES

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18 1992

LAW

Stephanie
Slater: could
she sue her
employers?

The Pit and the pendulum

The Barbican Centre is ten years old, next month. Richard Morrison looks back on its troubled genesis and argues that it epitomises genius and bungling

Why should we celebrate the tenth anniversary of an arts centre that was scheduled to open 20 years ago? Why cheer a place that, at one time or other, has been bad-mouthed almost into oblivion by the City of London (which built and owns it), the Royal Shakespeare Company, the London Symphony Orchestra (who perform in it), and the public — some of whom, despite the 123 entrances, still say they cannot find it?

One answer is that the public has found the Barbican Centre 18 million punters have attended 22,000 events there. The LSO and RSC are still there. The City has given up moaning about the cost. And perhaps, one day, even bush-hammered concrete modernism will come back into fashion.

But there is a more profound answer. If we knock this building, we are in effect knocking the whole cultural history of post-war Britain. Its achievements and its traumas epitomise both our native genius and our native bungling.

The Barbican was conceived in the mid-Fifties by people with high ideals. There were 35 bomb craters north of St Paul's Cathedral. Why not, the minister suggested to the City, create a genuine residential neighbourhood incorporating schools, shops, open spaces and amenities?

So the City did. But being businessmen, they left the "amenities" bit to the end. "An arts centre was the last thing that the City fathers wanted, in their heart of hearts," says Henry Wrong, the Canadian appointed in 1970 to run the Barbican Centre. They certainly never intended to start giving grants to performers.

Sir Edward Howard, a former Lord Mayor, led the opposition. He called the arts centre "the worst decision" taken in the City's 800-year history. He had a point. The original estimate was £8 million; it ended up costing £187 million. "Less than the price of a second-hand aircraft carrier," said *The Times* soothingly on March 3, 1982, the day the centre opened — but the City was horrified at its own profligacy.

Building had been continually halted by long strikes. Intervention by such baroque bodies as the "London Regional Joint Emergency Reconciliation Panel" had proved unhelpful. The City had sued the builders. The builders had sued the City. The architects had sued the *Sunday Times*, and had threatened to sue Wrong for scuppering their novel idea: a cinema where people lay flat and watched a screen on the ceiling.

"It was a time of galloping inflation, huge industrial disputes, the building industry out of control. The City must have been outraged," says Baroness O'Cathain.

ain, the Irish businesswoman who followed Wrong as Barbican director in 1990.

The City did not make it easy for themselves. They chose an architect that had never designed anything so heavily orientated before, let alone a showcase venue in the centre of London with a 2,000-seat concert hall, theatres, art gallery, cinemas, music school and library.

"Gilbert Inglefield, the Lord Mayor, was chiefly responsible for letting his old friend Peter Chamberlain in by the back door to do the architecture," Wrong says. Furthermore, he adds, the architects never let it be known "how much it would cost to run the centre. And they made the idiotic decision not to give the centre a proper street entrance. People will walk," they said! Peter Chamberlain once told me that 'in five years, nobody will be using cars in London'."

There were other bizarre problems. In 1975 a fish-wise saboteur secretly introduced pike into the Barbican's lakes. By the time the dastardly act was discovered, 8,500 goldfish had been eaten.

Then, after the centre opened, 2,000 plastic balls — placed high up in the concert hall, doubtless for some arcane aesthetic purpose — had to be removed, after the pianist Maurizio Pollini refused

(for excellent acoustical reasons) to play in their presence. More needless expense.

By then, however, the City fathers had more pressing difficulties. They were learning the hard way about artistic temperament — from the two great performing ensembles invited to be resident.

The first whinges came from the LSO, which had planned much too adventurously (acres of Tippett and Weber) and was aghast at its box-office takings. "The orchestra began a whispering campaign against the Barbican at the time of the opening," Wrong says. "There were certain Viennese players who didn't want to like it. Claudio Abbado, the principal conductor, was very critical of the acoustics,

then Trevor Nunn. Indeed, the Pit — the ultra-underground studio theatre that later generations of RSC actors have delighted in revelling — was specifically included in Nunn's insistence. But Peter Hall did say at the time, with remarkable prescience: "If you give me the theatre of my dreams today, how can I know that I'll like it tomorrow?" The City fathers cannot claim they weren't warned.

Under new management, however, the LSO quickly sorted out its relationship with the City. A move towards festivals built round crowd-pulling stars (Bernstein, Rostropovich) proved highly successful. A more lasting problem has been the RSC's antagonism towards the Barbican.

That is surprising. The architects were thoroughly briefed by the RSC's chiefs (Peter Hall and

RSC's director) spent it out in 1989 to *The Times*: "It is impossible to preserve company spirit in those subterranean rehearsal rooms. The vast majority of RSC people hate the place profoundly."

Here was a clear warning. Yet the Barbican management genuinely felt betrayed in 1990 when the RSC cancelled its Barbican winter season, citing government underfunding as the reason. After all, only two years earlier the City had increased by 77 per cent its own funding to the LSO and RSC.

"I'd been in the job six weeks when they dropped this bombshell on my desk," O'Cathain says. "And that very same day they gave me an ultimatum, drawn up by an architect whom they had employed as a consultant without telling the Barbican management. It demanded backstage changes that they said would cost over a million pounds. I said 'there's no way we are going to do that! I've got a cast-iron, copper-bottomed guarantee that you will be back and staying back!'

Presumably O'Cathain received her "cast-iron guarantee", because the work is now being done ("and incidentally," says O'Cathain, "it is costing considerably less than a million"). Indeed, as the tenth anniversary approaches, conciliatory noises can be heard from every corner. Perhaps they all realise they need each other. The City requires good publicity more than ever; and the LSO and RSC

need the City's cash (each gets more than £1 million a year) to make revolutionary strides in designing concert halls since the Barbican opened its doors.

But does this convenient mutual arrangement in fact make the Barbican a success? As we follow the yellow line through the windswept walkways, past the discoloured concrete, towards the arts centre that nobody really planned and few really wanted, do we rejoice that it is there at all, or regret what might have been?

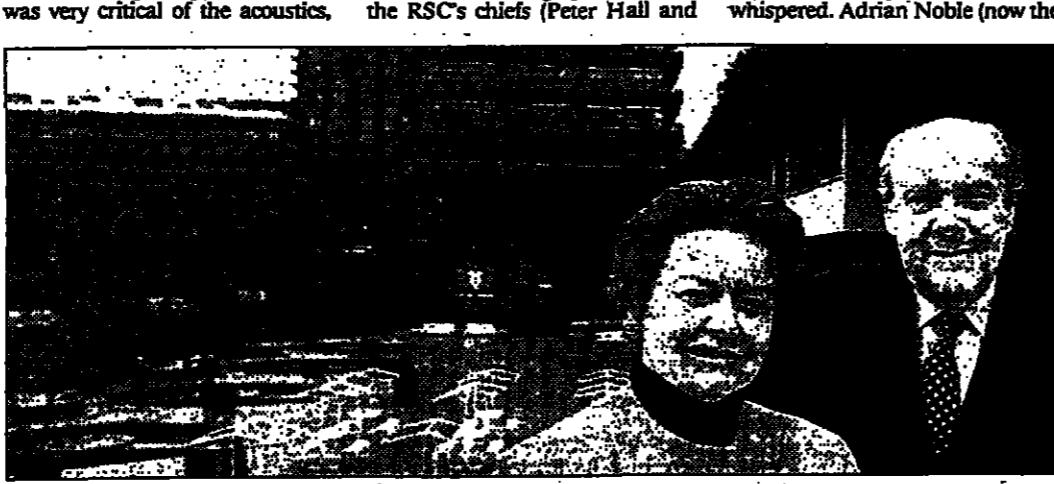
In a sense the Barbican was built too early. A decade or two later, and the architectural pendulum would have swung away from the worst excesses of Brutalism. And as Birmingham's new hall

has shown, acousticians have made revolutionary strides in designing concert halls since the Barbican opened its doors.

Still, all over Britain, perhaps all over the world, arts administrators have learned from the Barbican's failures and triumphs. "We did pioneer lots of things," says Wrong. "But it's sometimes an advantage to be second."

INSIDE

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Tough at the top: Baroness O'Cathain and Henry Wrong, the present and former Barbican directors

A user's guide to manual illiteracy

MID LIFE

Neil Lyndon finds himself lost in the high-tech jungle



It's the curse of the chip. I am a victim of multi-functionality. I buy a piece of kit for one purpose and discover that I'm meant to master five hundred steps of input. I'm surrounded by instruments which can operate to about 2 per cent of their capacity. The calculator on my desk was bought to add, subtract, multiply, divide and prove that I couldn't afford to pay this quarter's VAT. It took me a

whole half day of brow-beating over the manual to work out how to add 17.5 per cent to 100. Who's got the time for these manuals?

I hate them all. They all begin with the same smug insult. "Congratulations on having chosen our product: it just shows how bright you think you are. Now let us prove that you are incapable of passing a basic apt test applied intelligence." They give me the same sense of the imminence of the grave as the first page of a Salman Rushdie novel: "I'm going to die before I see the point of this." I think. There is a further similarity between the chip manuals and the Salman Rushdie novels: I haven't finished any of them.

There was a time when my limited proficiency in the use of new technology was the only point of advantage I had over my parents. My father used to watch the working of my fax machine with the kind of rapt wonder with which rural peasants greeted the arrival of the first horseless carriage. My parents feared and shied away from my first answering machine like nervous horses facing a combine harvester. I would find messages from my father which began "Oh no: it's that terrible machine again." He has closed the multi-functionality gap.

If she ever finds out how to hack into the machine by remote control and hear all of my messages, including the threats from the bank and the menaces from the government inspectors, I shall be in serious bother. Fortunately, she hasn't read the manual either.

* TOMORROW
Single life: Lynne Truss

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NEW DISPLAYS 1992: Under *Nicholas Serota* the new year's offering at the Tate is becoming an eagerly awaited annual event. What seems to have changed is that it is happy compromise between a permanent display and constantly changing exhibition. Highlights this year include rooms devoted to such subjects as the British Samurais, Hogarth and his *Cat and Dog Poem* (Abercrombie - Paris), as well as a re-examination of the British kitchen sink.

Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (071-821 1513). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm, Sun, 2-5pm, open today.

ANDREA MANTEGNA: Since one of Mantegna's greatest works, the great series depicting the *Triumph of Caesar*, is in an off-site collection, London seems a logical place to launch this first major retrospective of the painter for many years (it goes on to the Metropolitan, New York, in September). The 15th-century Italian artist's influence on the impression he gives of pleasure only just held in check by the disciplines of classical form.

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (071-638 7430). Daily, 10am-6pm, until April 6. Sponsored by Olivetti.

LARS VOGT: As part of the South Bank's "International Piano" series, the young German pianist performs a recital of works by Schubert (Five Variations on a theme by Fauré; Schubert: Haydn (Sonata in C); Brahms (Sonata, 1860) and Beethoven (Sonata in C); Chopin (Sonata in B); and Czerny (Sonata in F#), South Bank, London SE1 (071-929 8800), 7.45pm.

ALL, ALL: Garden Kye and his team of funny frogs and knuts put up their familiar faces. Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-880 9562). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8.30pm, open today.

BECKETT: Riveting performances from Derek Jacobi and Ian Lendrum in *Death of a Salesman*, the relationship between Thomas & Beckett and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8000). Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, mat Wed, 8pm, 10.30pm.

THE COTTON CLUB: An impression of the Harlem nightspot, high on energy, low on atmosphere. Almeida, Almeida Street, WC2 (071-8405). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.30pm.

THE CUTTING: Intriguing two-hander by Maureen O'Brien between a silent prisoner on a murder rap and a psychiatrist. First performance, Sat, 8pm, at the Swan, Great George, W1 (071-3389). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.30pm.

DANCING AT LUGHNASA: Brian Friel's Oliver Award-winning memory-set, in 1920s Donegal. Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-5055). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 8pm, Sat, 4pm, 10.30pm.

AN EVENING WITH GARY LLOYD: Sometimes drolly at the expense of a woman married to a soccer nut. Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (071-494 5076). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 8.30pm, 10.30pm.

THE GIGLI CONCERT: Barry Fornster and a team of young Italian soloists (Tony Doyle) into the new Gigli in Tom Murphy's powerful play. Almeida, Almeida Street, NJ (071-3399). Mon-Fri, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm, 10.30pm. Final week.

GOOD ROCKIN' TONITE: Sat, 8pm, at the Royal Exchange. Fitness and Skating prodigies. Gaiety staff, Strand, Alldwyn, WC2 (071-940 0900).

NEW RELEASES: BARTON FINK (15): The Coen brothers' marvellous macabre comedy about a New York playwright all set in 1940s Hollywood. Starring John Turturro, John Goodman, a triple Cannibal, and the Coen brothers. Gate (071-27 4043) Lumière (071-836 0891) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3365).

THE FAVOUR, THE WATCH AND THE VERY BIG FISH (15): Fredi Mekhora's film of the life of a professional photographer of historical scenes (Bob Hoskins) struggling to find his Christ. With Jeff Goldblum, Nastassja Richardson; director, Ben Lewin. Cinema City (071-930 0055).

THE LUMATIC (15): Hefty German television movie about an American innocent (the ebullient Paul Campbell). Antics feature debut by pop video director Lotte Crane.

PROBLEM CHILD (PG): Daniel and his mother (Demi Moore) with Michael Oliver (the delinquent type), John Ritter (the clever dad), and flying vomit. Cinema City (071-930 0051) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3365).

STAR TRAK VI: THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY (PG): Farewell Kirk and Spock, battling galactic weirdos in their last screen appearance. With William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, director, Nichols Meyer.

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Exploring a frame of mind

LONDON GALLERIES

Is the artist boxing clever, or is this clever packaging?
John Russell Taylor investigates the intriguing and attractive boxes created by Michael Rothenstein

If you mention the word "box" in an artistic context, Joseph Cornell immediately springs to mind: one of the American master's sly and delicate boxes of delights, assembling items of nostalgic significance to primarily playful effect. The most important thing to know about Michael Rothenstein's boxes, now receiving their first extensive showing at the Royal Academy, is that his are nothing like that.

At first meeting, Rothenstein is difficult to associate with his work: there is this mild-mannered, thoughtful man, looking decades younger than his 84 years, and all round him are these amazing images of violence and destruction, or outbursts of vibrant colour exploding in all directions. So how does he see himself as bridging this disparity?

Essentially, like so many contemporary symbolists, he denies any special knowledge of his work, and thought processes. His images are frequently found on the basis of "I know it when I see it."

Literally found, in many cases: "I've spent half my life haunting rubbish-dumps," he says cheerfully. He has been putting the things he found in boxes for 30 years now, but the world at large has been little aware of his

activities in this line since he has rarely exhibited boxes and never any significant number together.

Thirty years ago this sort of work would have been fairly controversial from an established artist, but Rothenstein says that had nothing to do with his not showing it. His explanation is that, since he has never had anything to do with the big institutions such as the Academy, and never taught in a major art school, he really had nobody to please but himself.

Clearly he did find for himself a considerable amount of pleasure. These assemblages pulse with a secret and not altogether explicable life. They began because Rothenstein was already fascinated, in his more familiar role as print-maker, with the idea of printing direct from pre-existing materials, using, for instance, the grain in a piece of scrap wood as a printed pattern for its own inherent beauty. And if it was so beautiful, why not preserve and reuse the thing itself?

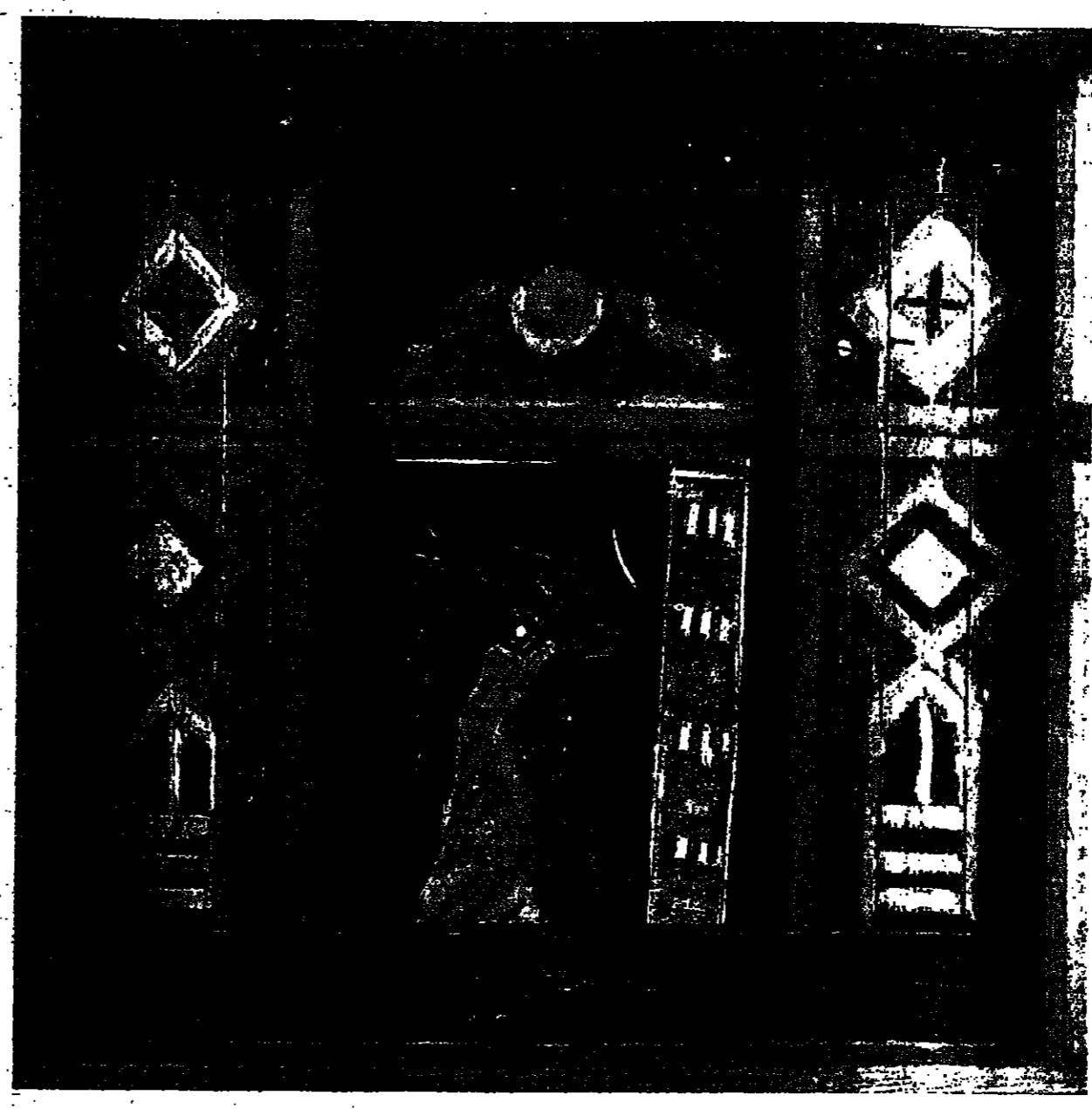
He had the same sort of attitude to found objects of a more obviously psychological type: a newspaper photograph of a murdered woman, revealing expansive cleavage on some long-forgotten beach, or a perfectly ordinary photograph of Rhenish Cathedral, which took on a quite

different significance when retrieved, having been crumpled into a ball, from the office floor. For whatever reason, these things set the mind racing along unfamiliar paths.

Even more surrealistic, random collations of things would spark something. A piece of Gothic tracery thrown out from a local chapel might happen to swim into Rothenstein's ken at the same time as the first space-rocket flights from Cape Kennedy, and there it was: whatever it was, a Gothic arch is sort of rocket-shaped, and both have overtones of seeking the heavens, of people gazing upwards in hope and fear.

The "boxes" in this show — they are often more like paintings or prints, presented in a deep frame — constitute a sort of psychological journal. But they can be read by anyone, since they work not on a rigid system of equivalences, where, for example, a flight of birds must signify freedom, but rather on a free association that is controlled only by strict aesthetic discipline.

In some cases the original elements, enshrined in boxed assemblages, are shown right next to the prints that they somehow engendered. In Cu-



Purely to please himself: Cockerel Box, circa 1985 (approximately 41cm square), by Michael Rothenstein

pid there is preserved a curious desert-beige object which Rothenstein says is an old metal toy car, found flattened in the road.

Next to this is a print which uses the same image, but slightly larger, as a design element. This at once makes clear why Rothenstein fixed on it, for its air of being "some

kind of Babylonian monument, maybe as if it were reproduced fuzzily in an old copy of the *National Geographic magazine*".

Rothenstein is an absolute genius at this kind of lateral thinking. It is no doubt also significant that many of these boxes were virtually plucked from the burning and plucked

by the show's organisers. Somehow it is only right that compilations and extrapolations of found objects should be themselves refound with almost equal arbitrariness. The whiff of danger still hangs about them, forbidding undue reverence but at the same time undeniably firing excitement.

GLASGOW has not taken its failure to be designated by the Arts Council as Visual Arts Capital of 1996 lying down. At a press conference held in Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Glasgow School of Art, councillor Pat Lally announced that the city will host its independent Centenary of Arts Programme in the same year: in 1996 the famous arts school will be 100 years old. The programme's centrepiece will be the largest-ever Mackintosh exhibition, which will eventually tour the United States.

Fuller measure

THEATREGOERS in the Home Counties who were hoping to see the RSC's *Measure for Measure* and *The Blue Angel* when it finished its four-month tour at Spelthorne Leisure Centre, Staines (0784 469729) this week, will have found tickets hard to come by, especially for the Shakespeare. But they should take note: *Measure for Measure* will transfer to the Young Vic on March 6, and *The Blue Angel* is to open in the West End at a theatre and date to be announced. Both are directed by Trevor Nunn.

Last chance...

ALTYNAI Asylmuratova, the leading ballerina of the Maryinsky Ballet — formerly the Kirov — in St Petersburg, and a welcome regular guest at Covent Garden (071-439 7438) Daily 10am-6pm, until March 5. Adam 2.

● Michael Rothenstein: Images and Themes. Peter Nahum, 43a Duke Street, SW1 (071-230 6059) Mon-Sa 10am-5.30pm, until March 13.

● Michael Rothenstein's Boxes. by Mel Gooding. Art Books International, £25.

Age brings a more even tenor

JAZZ

Andy Hamilton, the septuagenarian Birmingham saxophonist visiting London this week, talks to Clive Davis

Jazz musicians are traditionally late risers. Legend has it that most of them linger in bed to sleep off the previous night's surfeit of alcohol, tobacco and loose women. Andy Hamilton, on the other hand, does not feel ready to face the world until he has heard the mid-morning religious service on Radio 4, followed by the network's daily reading from the Bible.

He admits that he used to do his share of carousing in his younger days. As a bandleader in his native Jamaica he was often given half a dozen complimentary bottles of rum after concerts. He recalls that on one occasion he and his group stopped off at a farm, in order to mix the drink with fresh milk from a dairy herd.

He chuckles at the memory: "Good white rum knocks you blind, man." The tenor saxophonist celebrates his 74th birthday next month. At a stage when most musicians are enjoying retirement, his career seems to be gaining momentum. After years of playing one-night stands in Birmingham, he achieved national recognition last year with the release of his long-overdue debut album, *Silverstone*.

This weekend he makes a rare appearance in London, giving two concerts with a "Special Quintet" featuring pianist Jason Rebello and the Ghanaian master drummer Nana Tisbie. Hamilton's style is a throw-back to the lush sound of Coleman Hawkins and Ben Webster. The gentle and soulful approach, tinged with Caribbean rhythms, comes as a welcome contrast to the joyless harmonic webs spun by younger and more sophisticated players. His regular band, the Blue Notes, has built up a strong multi-racial following in the Birmingham

"At an age when most are enjoying retirement, his career is gaining momentum"

His manager likes to joke that Hamilton must have married off half the couples in Birmingham.

His recording debut came about through his dates at The Bear, where he frequently plays with visiting American soloists, such as the trumpeter Harry "Sweets" Edison. Impressed by Hamilton's work, many wondered why they had not heard of him before. Enter Nick Gold from World Circuit Records. Having heard Hamilton at the Soho Jazz Festival in 1990, he proposed cutting an album. When the question of guest musicians was raised, Hamilton had a list of names he could call on.

Cult American saxophonist David Murray was fixed and instantly agreed ("It's his tone, man," he said of Hamilton. "It knocks me out.")



His greatest contribution? Andy Hamilton working with pupils at the Lea Mason School, Birmingham

Andy Sheppard, Steve Williams and Orphy Robinson were also eager to pay their respects.

One unexpected contributor was Mick Hucknall, of Simply Red. He had heard Hamilton at The Bear, and had asked if they could work together. The result was a duet on "You Are Too Beautiful". Hamilton, incidentally, has other connections with the pop world: Steve Winwood used to play piano with him many years ago, and Hamilton's son, Graeme, has worked with Fine Young Cannibals.

With all the guests dropping by, the set has a beguiling air of spontaneity, with the rough edges left intact. It is the most congenial album of its kind since Hamilton's fellow Jamaican, the trombonist Rico, recorded the jazz-ska-reggae album *That Man Is Forward* a decade ago.

Silverstone's emotional highlight is the title tune, a calypso composed by Hamilton in the Forties, during a stint as bandleader and musical arranger for Errol Flynn.

The Andy Hamilton Special Quintet appears at The Orange, London, W14 (071-371 4317) this Friday and Saturday.

BEST PLAY OF 1991
1991

JULIET STEVENSON
BILL PATERSON
MICHAEL BYRNE
DEATH & THE MAIDEN
BY ARIEL DOREMAN

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE, ST MARTIN'S LANE, WC2 071 836 5122, 071 836 9387, 071 897 9977, 071 897 9977

A problem for television playwrights who use modern British politics as their playground is that we the viewers know something about it. When a pretty woman is buried by the new prime minister from the Gothic ramparts of the House of Commons or a limo parked below, we suspect that reality has been tweaked. Drama strays into melodrama, but the result is watchable — as *House of Cards* proved.

Underbelly (BBC 2) last night aimed differently. A prison rioter falls from a roof-top protest to his death in a grey courtyard below; nobody has intended the result; and the minister has no idea what to do. This is more like real politics. But is it as watchable?

The episode, first of four, proved that it can be. The three scenes in which the drama is presumably to be played out — the street-level quandaries of a junior minister, the Commons piranha

tank, and the world of business scandal — are features of daily news flashes. Anyone who, missing the titles, tuned in to the prison riot, might have supposed that to be real news footage. (Wasn't it laying it on a bit thick to call the fictional prison "Strangeys"?)

Courtroom and Commons scenes were equally convincing. Indeed there was no need to force the action forward with urgent incidental music and camera-work of the determinedly harrowing kind. A strong story permits less intrusive production.

And it was strong. The minister seemed a believably ordinary man, believably torn. His dodgy business-

TELEVISION REVIEW

Not just the plain truth, thank you

man friend was well played as the engaging type they often are nice wife, nice kid. Animal behaviour in a prison riot, might have supposed that to be real news footage. (Wasn't it laying it on a bit thick to call the fictional prison "Strangeys")

Courtroom and Commons scenes were equally convincing. Indeed there was no need to force the action forward with urgent incidental music and camera-work of the determinedly harrowing kind. A strong story permits less intrusive production.

There was humour ("This line isn't se- cure," says our beleaguered minister, on the telephone to his boss, the Home Secretary. "Nor are you," comes the reply). But the drama is not deliberately played for laughs — though the prisoner banging his

head against a wall could have been joined by a government minister doing likewise.

Underbelly has set off at a cracking pace, established a tension capable of holding the series together, and achieved it thus far without fantasy. The only lie, last night, was the lie inherent in all pacy television drama: every word, glance, camera-angle was significant. You could tell from the evidence where the story was going.

But the problem central to a real politician's life is that almost all of it turns out to be inconsequential. The consequential bit is seen only in retrospect. An inchoate mass of confusing detail and false trails would make bad television. In that respect, television political drama never quite captures the reality. If it did, you would reach for the off switch. Happily, no such desire troubled *Underbelly's* audience last night.

MATTHEW PARRIS

RADIO REVIEW

All set to play unhappy families

On the evidence of the first episode of Thomas Mann's *Buddenbrooks* (Radio 4, Saturday), it was not easy to guess what would upset Adolf Hitler that he had the book banned and burned. On the other hand, it hardly takes a Mann scholar to work out that the Buddenbrooks, a prosperous 19th-century merchant family living in the endless summer of their own contentment, are soon to be cast out of Eden by the demons of an altogether less genteel new order. Thomas Mann is not Enid Blyton, and anyway, nobody makes six-part drama serials about families for whom nothing goes horribly wrong.

So, over the next five Saturday nights (or Friday afternoons, if you prefer to catch the repeats), we can look forward to a story of decay, despair and gathering darkness in old Lübeck town, and the director, Jane Morgan, has gathered the perfect cast for the job.

Harriet Walter (as the beautiful daughter at the very heart, and soul, of the Buddenbrook dynasty) was a particularly inspired bit of casting. Not only does she hold her own as both a classical and popular actress, we all know she looks the part — patrician, serene and made of the stuff that bends but never breaks. She is as perfect for the part as Susan Hampshire was for *Fleur*, the heroine of our own dear *Forty-Six*.

Whether Walter has quite

Macbeth is another matter, but there she was scrubbing away at the damned spot (Radio 4, Saturday, in Nigel Bryant's new and unfashionably complete version of *The Scottish Play*). Very fine she was too, but I confess that other images — one too strong, the other not nearly strong enough — prevented me being totally possessed. The strong image was of Tim McInnerny, a perfectly good audio Macbeth to be sure, but an actor who is still so umbilically linked to all those chinless dopes he played in various incarnations of *Blackadder* that it is not yet possible to take him seriously.

And it is not without good reason. The strong image was of Tim McInnerny, a perfectly good audio Macbeth to be sure, but an actor who is still so umbilically linked to all those chinless dopes he played in various incarnations of *Blackadder* that it is not yet possible to take him seriously.

The indistinct image, meanwhile, was of Macbeth, which badly needed somebody to pop up now and again and tell us where we were. If this is the oldest device in the radio book, it's not without good reason. A work as comparatively unfamiliar as *Buddenbrooks* was made a great deal more accessible by having Charles Simpson describe scenes, seasons and the passing of years,

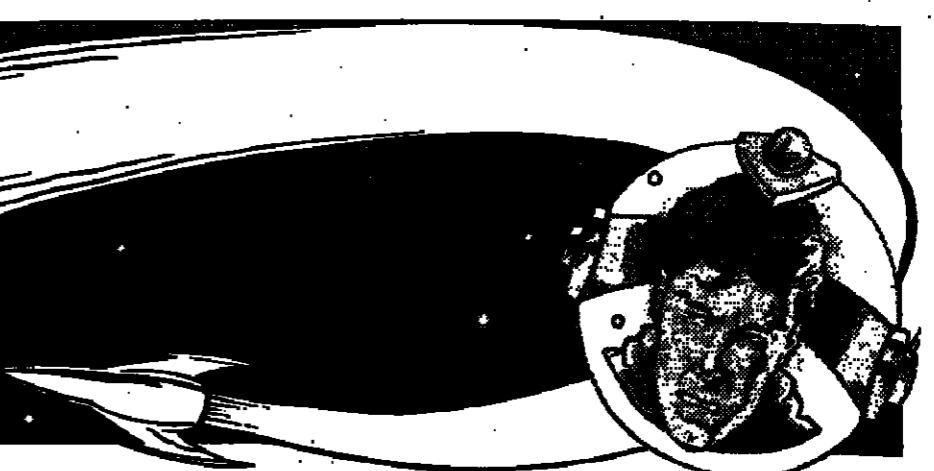
cast" — in other words, a programme that goes out live on television and radio at the same time. But if you chose to listen rather than watch, you needed more help than was available from Mark Goodier, a Radio 1 DJ-turned-Tom Fleming for the night, who delighted in saying things such as: "Here come Right Said Fred; they're wearing their usual stuff." If anybody out there happens to know what Right Said Fred's usual stuff is, could they kindly keep it to themselves?

It tells you all you need to know about the pop music trade, that the Brits was essentially a television event which radio was allowed to eavesdrop. Radio 1 might be the industry's most important source of promotion, but at the annual back-scratching session, you had the firm impression that poor Master Goodier was consigned to the servants' quarters, while the movers and shakers of BBC 1 and MTV were entertained at the top table.

PATRICK STODDART

and while William Shakespeare was less obliging than Thomas Mann — he never got around to writing *Macbeth: The Book Of The Play* — more could have been done to help listeners when they couldn't tell their Ross from their Banquo.

You could say the same about the Brits '92 (Radio 1, last Wednesday). The music industry's annual awards to itself are an example of what some language mangle long ago christened the "simulcast".



Novelist Thomas Mann: he was no Enid Blyton

TOMORROW IN
LIFE & TIMES
All for love?
Kenneth Rea on why
actors work without pay

Keying in to the porn pedlars

Young computer users have easy access to cheap hard-core material. Jay Andrews reports on a growing concern

At first, James sounds like an ordinary teenage boy. He is keen on soccer — "Arsenal's my favourite" — and his is loath to admit he likes school. He is "OK at maths" and proudly reckons himself a computer buff. In his bedroom he has an Amiga, a small machine that his parents bought him two years ago for less than £400.

Thanks to the Amiga, James is also porn buff: he has his own small collection of floppy discs containing full-frontal nudes. He also claims to have seen hard-core material on his computer. James is aged 14. His parents have no inkling of his new pastime: "Don't use computers, do they? Mum'd be frightened of turning mine on."

He refuses to say how he got hold of the material, but it will have been easy enough. The Greater Manchester police recently caught a 16-year-old boy distributing pornographic discs in a school playground. If not the playground, there is the high-street newsagent. Most, including W.H. Smith, stock legitimate computer magazines, some of which run advertisements for adult software.

All James needs to do is send his address, and a postal order for as little as £1, to one of these advertisers. In return, James receives the disc. He simply inserts it into his machine to review the contents.

People looking for computer pornography can choose between books, "animatronics" and games. A book or disc offers page after page of near-photographic-quality colour images. An animation is a sequence of stills that may carry a soundtrack. One called *Party Games* shows a couple having sex. The viewer uses joysticks or keys to control the speed at which they perform.

The distributors who advertise their wares range from one-man outfits to shareware libraries. These began as places where programmers could send, and buy, material that had not found a market — business applications, for instance, or programming tools.

Jeffrey Green and his wife set up Advantage Shareware in 1985, marketing business, home and leisure shareware through advertisements in computer magazines. "A few years ago we went through a phase of getting *Playboy*-type stuff submitted," says Mr Green. "We did start marketing them as pin-ups. But about two years ago it got more serious. People sent us stuff where they'd taken photo-quality pictures of blue videos and re-animated them. Some were very sick. Now we don't even run the pin-ups. But many libraries offer everything."



Keyed up: while the police are hampered by a lack of resources and manpower, John Dudley has launched a one-man crusade against computer porn

Last summer, an American firm wrote to British shareware libraries offering to market their material abroad. In return, A-V Tech Productions, of Wisconsin, offered its own catalogue of shareware.

John Dudley, of Essex Computer Systems, which markets general computer technology, read the letter with disgust. "They were quite frank. They said their selection included artistic nudes and hard-core material."

"They were trying to make an international business of it. Anyone with a digital scanner can 'read' a photograph into a computer and animate it. A scanner costs a few hundred pounds, but you won't even need that when the new digital cameras come out. And I've seen discs of pornographic home videos — not animated to full speed, but at two frames a second, which is enough to give an idea of movement."

Three aspects of computer pornography in particular worry Inspector Andy Reed, the head of the central obscene publications department of the Greater Manchester Police. "First has to be the accessibility of this material: it's advertised in legitimate magazines and it is cheap to get hold of — pocket-money prices."

"It's also easy to copy. If you have the computer to run the program in the first place, you can copy it on to further discs. And the third problem is that the average parent just gives up when it comes

to computers. Few would bother to check discs, even though it's simple enough."

Emma Nicholson, the Conservative MP, has taken the matter up and agrees that parents should become more informed about computers. However, as computer consultant Jem Prince points out, it is not as easy as that. One of his sons was a computer buff and is now reading computer science at university. "But when Caspian was a young teenager I'd no more have gone through what he had on computer than I would have read his diary. And if there was anything he'd wanted to keep utterly secret, he

could have scrambled the data so only he could access it, or put it under a misleading file name in a hidden directory."

Ms Nicholson has also had discussions with John Patten, the Home Office minister. He asked officials to look into the subject, but a Home Office spokesman said the department could not treat computer pornography differently from that on any other medium. As for the magazines carrying advertisements for adult software, the spokesman said: "The publishers will have to be

aware it's really a matter for self-scrutiny and self-regulation."

At New Scotland Yard, Superintendent Mike Haines of the obscene publications department, knows that computer pornography is an increasing problem, but has nobody specifically dealing with it. "There are 16 officers to cover everything under the Obscene Publications Act within the metropolitan area: it's a question of resources. Pornography does not have that high a priority, either within the force itself or in public perception. But we do have officers collating information."

Inspector Reed's department in Greater Manchester is the only one in Britain with a special unit. It was set up last year after a departmental report on computer pornography revealed the extent of the problem. The unit's investigations contributed to a British first: the prosecution of a man for allegedly possessing pornographic discs with intent to gain.

The case will be heard in Swindon magistrates' court later this month. The Greater Manchester police have a further six cases in the pipeline. Mr Dudley has started his own crusade. He has launched the PDSO, or Public Domain Standards for Distribution. Shareware — known as public domain — libraries that join can use the PDSO logo in their advertisements, guaranteeing among other things that their discs have been monitored for both pornography and computer viruses.

A number of bulletin boards offer hard-core porn, invariably protected by a password that is made available only on payment to the bulletin board's owner. The amount can be as little as £5. Bulletin boards are international: the computer might itself be in an office or home anywhere in the world.

But membership is voluntary and he admits there are overheads in checking each disc out of hundreds submitted. To scan a disc for potential viruses — programmes that can corrupt others and eventually inhibit the use of the computer — takes a few seconds. Watching a disc in real time for pornography takes much longer, especially when the programme has hidden the material. So, for instance, it only appears at certain intervals or, in response to certain key commands.

There is a further marketplace for computer pornography that is more difficult for the police to deal with. Like shareware libraries, bulletin boards began as a legitimate means of swapping information. If someone has the number for a bulletin board, he simply dials it from his computer, using a modem that converts a computer's digital information into analogue format for the telephone. A catalogue of programs will come up on his screen. He can then select what he wants and "download" (copy) it via the telephone line into his own computer.

Compact-disc technology, however, may price itself outside the range of most children: it requires a fairly powerful computer and an additional drive to play the discs. The discs themselves will be more expensive to make and buy.

But until then, there's cheap stuff being made and kids buying it," Inspector Reed says. "A kid of 14 watching hard-core stuff today, what's he going to be like in the future? Perhaps he's the shy one, doesn't make friends easily. I do worry for the future."

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ADRIAN BROOKS



Lucky break: children at one school may be on vacation while their friends at another work on

that started its holiday last return. The rota system partly explains why one invariably bumps into Germans abroad, regardless of the time of year.

Nor is it just the Germans who have cracked the school holiday problem. The French divide their catchment areas into three zones (A, B and C), which also stagger holidays on a rota system to relieve traffic congestion and facilitate parental planning. Zone A started its mid-term break last Saturday, which accounts for the deserted London-based French Lyceé this week. "It's particularly useful at this time of year when many families take a *vacances de neige* because you don't find yourself on the same piste with hordes of other families," points out Anna Ellerton, who lived in France with her husband and three children until 1988. "But although children tend to go to school near their homes, there are still hangovers from industrial traditions such as in Lancashire, where certain schools and businesses alike shut for the same fortnight in July. The association also considers the German system inflexible. "Do parents really want to plan up to ten years ahead?"

Such doubts are echoed by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities. "We are now looking at rationalising school terms so they're the same length regardless of county," says a spokesman. "But it's not the most urgent investigation on our agenda."

But if standardising school terms will not work, perhaps a four-term system might. British educational authorities have, for some years, been considering a school year that would correspond

with the seasons and, therefore, mean shorter holidays. Mr Hart is sympathetic to the idea. "We'd get away from the long winter term, which runs from September until Christmas. And we could also shift the timing of exams away from the hottest and most hazy period of the year. Summer holidays might be reduced to four weeks, which would make it easier for children to adjust to school life and the extra fourth term might allow parents to go away for a second annual break."

The four-term year remains at the planning stage, although Mr Hart says "a number of Midlands

local authorities have expressed interest in piloting it". Standardisation, however, does not suit everyone. Spain, for example, has decentralised its system. "Until 1985, all schools took their holidays at the same time," says Teresa Tinsley, of the Spanish embassy. "Now each region decides holidays." And the French admit their zone system can cause difficulties, when planning family weddings, for instance. Imagine a church of bridesmaids, of whom only one is *en vacances*.

JANE BIDDER

TOMORROW

"We are not a bunch of Catholics living in the Dark Ages anymore." Irish women talk about abortion.

When granny is nanny

Victims of the recession include grandparents who are dumped on as well as dumped

Sometimes social trends come at you so fast you get your cues scrambled. A sixtyish woman was adjusting her glasses the other day over a headline about "granny dumping" — the phenomenon wherein elderly people are left in hospital waiting-rooms by defecting relatives. She instantly began a soliloquy about the scandal she assumed must have inspired the headline: the other social trend wherein small children are persistently dumped on granny. This, she intimated, was getting pretty much as bad as the other sort.

Of course, entrusting children to loving grandparents is an honoured tradition as old as procreation. In fact if Eve had a grudge against the Creator, it was probably that He hadn't bothered to whip out another of Adam's ribs and make a handy granny for the future baby Cain (come to think of it, a good ruthless granny might have sorted that lad out nicely). Down the centuries, grandparental care in times of stress or crisis have saved millions of children from neglect. It is a noble role. But there are signs that young couples are starting to embrace the extended family with rather more vigour than finesse. Recessionary times have slowed down the nanny boom, and recent cases and films involving "nannies from hell" have sown panic. So, as one young mother put it in an unguarded moment: "One is more attracted to the devil one knows." Faithful granny, down the road.

Few parents with full-time jobs rely entirely on grandparental childcare. But those with part-time jobs or merely a passion for skiing are getting keener and keener on it. And it presents problems. Not so much in the working classes, where the custom of using nanna as childminder never died out and a plain-spoken modus vivendi has long since been reached. The trouble occurs when middle-class couples have their first babies and find that the onset of comparative

"In the interest of delicacy, the best currency for babysitting would be bottles of gin and theatre tickets"

poverty brings on a strange, heart-warming new affection for their old parents.

And nobody asks: does granny need such onerous new responsibilities? She is fitter and brighter in her 60th year than any of her ancestors, awash in new interests and projects. She has probably achieved a paid-for house and a decorous, leisurely social life punctuated with highly agreeable trips to Venice or farther afield (remember, this is the SAGA generation too). Granddad is just learning to potter. When the first grandchild is born, often just as they had given up on their career daughter or daughter-in-law, everything changes. Of course, they are entranced: the first time the precious baby is allowed to stay overnight, alone, is a dream come true.

The 81st time is less thrilling. The once neat, adult house is strewn with nappies, pushchairs, garish plastic toys and chewed books. The younger couple seem to be out more often than their unpaid, unthanked childminders. The grandparents are made wary of complaining by horror stories from friends who see their descendants only once a year. "We're awfully lucky, really," puffs granny, hauling another magnum of disposable nappies off the chemist's shelf.

It would not be so bad if some kind of etiquette of power sharing had been worked out, but parents rarely cede much power to compensate for all this responsibility. From diet to music practice they are notoriously dog-in-the-mangerish about controlling their children's lives, and demonstrate the unpleasing middle-class social law that the less hands-on childcare parents do, the more doctinaire they get about the way their substitutes do it (ask any nanny). So although granny may have the brats two nights a week plus, she might as well be the au pair. But au pairs get paid, and grannies don't. Perhaps this is the answer.

"I think," said my sixty-something friend, "that in the interest of delicacy, the best currency would be bottles of gin and theatre tickets. Provided you know you'll get the night off babysitting the other grandchild to go to the damn play in the first place."

LIBBY PURVES

Guess who's on holiday this week?

Variations in the timing of half-term can cause disruption in some families. Do the Germans or French have the answer?

This week, it is half-term. Or, then again, it might be the week after next. The truth is that the timing of half-term — like that of other school holidays — varies dramatically, not only from region to region, but also from school to school. Parents inevitably bear the brunt, particularly if they have one child on holiday who wants to lie in late and another at a different school who has to be dragged protesting from his warm bed to get to class by 9 o'clock.

Intriguingly, traditional children's entertainments frequently fail to spot this variation. My middle child is hopping mad at missing the annual *Sooty* show, which our civic centre is performing this week (still her term time) and not the following (her half-term). Pity, too, the teacher/parent whose working holiday fails to correspond with their child's. Not only must she or he find alternative child care, but also misses rare time spent with offspring.

There is no such confusion in Germany, where each state takes its holiday on a rota basis, which is planned up to 1994. Hence German parents have known for some years that this Easter's holiday commences on March 16 in Berlin, March 25 in Bavaria and April 2 in Stuttgart. "The system avoids heavy traffic and has reduced road accidents when families go away," says Hans Schneider, of the German embassy, whose two children are at a German school in London, where holidays tally with the Westphalia region back home. "It's much easier for parents to plan holidays several months ahead."

Germany's system was introduced in 1983. After 1994, the rota re-commences (with the state

that started its holiday last return. The rota system partly explains why one invariably bumps into Germans abroad, regardless of the time of year.

Nor is it just the Germans who have cracked the school holiday problem. The French divide their catchment areas into three zones (A, B and C), which also stagger holidays on a rota system to relieve traffic congestion and facilitate parental planning. Zone A started its mid-term break last Saturday, which accounts for the deserted London-based French Lyceé this week. "It's particularly useful at this time of year when many families take a *vacances de neige* because you don't find yourself on the same piste with hordes of other families," points out Anna Ellerton, who lived in France with her husband and three children until 1988. "But although children tend to go to school near their homes, there are still hangovers from industrial traditions such as in Lancashire, where certain schools and businesses alike shut for the same fortnight in July. The association also considers the German system inflexible. "Do parents really want to plan up to ten years ahead?"

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But if standardising school terms will not work, perhaps a four-term system might. British educational authorities have, for some years, been considering a school year that would correspond

No harmony in arcadia

When Sir Edward Elgar was an old man, widely revered as the greatest composer England had produced since Purcell, he told his daughter Constance that if a museum of his life was ever to be set up, his preference would be for it to be in the cottage near Worcester where he was born in 1857. A museum was, indeed, set up there soon after his death in 1934, and his daughter donated the documents and memorabilia which make up the bulk of its exhibits, and chose how they should be arranged.

Elgar's choice of site was characteristic and deeply fitting, as most of the rising numbers of visitors who seek out the museum today would confirm. But unawares, he prepared a dilemma for the trustees of the Elgar Birthplace Museum. It is now coming to a head, agitating lovers of Elgar's music and ruffling the peace of the Malvern countryside that he so greatly cherished.

Elgar can scarcely have foreseen that his work would become so much loved around the world that it would draw 10,000 visitors a year down the lane in the village of Lower Broadheath to see the museum, set in green fields and looking out towards the hills to which Elgar returned all his life for inspiration.

The Victorian farm labourer's cottage is so tiny that it can hardly cope with today's crowds, let alone provide space for the car park, gift shop, audio-visual displays, refreshments and lavatories that have become expected features of a shrine to the famous. Nor can it provide the kind of conditions that modern scholarship regards as indispensable for the protection of a major archive.

As the problem began to loom in the mid-1980s, the trustees decided that the only solution was to build a separate visitor centre behind the cottage, with room for all the facilities that the existing building cannot contain. A formal planning application has now been made, and an appeal launched, which has already raised almost £400,000 towards the estimated cost of about £1m.

But the arrival of a brand-new building necessarily several times larger than the cottage threatens to destroy the atmosphere of the spot that Elgar regarded as holy ground. Some Elgar lovers see the plan as a violation of the spirit of the place, and some villagers oppose the threat it poses of diversion to a favourite bridleway.

The planning committee of the Malvern Hills District Council will probably discuss the matter early next month.

The Prince of Wales is patron of the Elgar Foundation. As an amateur cellist, he has a special interest in the composer of the great cello concerto, with its wistful evocation of the sadness of change. He has visited the museum several times, and privately commented on the plans as they have been revised and readjusted. His reservations helped to influence the shift from a relatively grandiose early proposal to a single-storey version which is architecturally conservative and unassertive, though still far larger than the cottage itself.

The trustees' dilemma is one that many of their counterparts also face today. Genius notoriously has little regard for mundane difficulties, and the famous are particularly inconsiderate in failing to take the trouble to be born or write their masterpieces in lodgings at which posterity can conveniently come to pay tribute. Churchill, born unexpectedly at Blenheim Palace, is one of the few who organised their birth with proper foresight.

Elgar's cottage is especially diminutive, but the problem recently

described by John Yates of English Heritage as "the Brontë personage syndrome", is familiar to workers in the field. A plan by the Brontë Society last year to extend the former home of the Brontë sisters by adding a visitor centre which would have been larger than the house itself was dropped after fierce opposition from members of the society.

As his music often implies, Elgar was a man with an intense attachment to his roots. He returned whenever he could to the small area between the Severn and the Malvern hills. Many of his scores are annotated with the names of local places where the germ of an idea first came to him, as he cycled through the hills or walked beside one of the rivers that flow off them.

Broadheath summed up all this, and stood for something more. He cannot have had any direct recollections of the time when he lived in the cottage, for his family moved back into Worcester, to be nearer his father's music shop and piano tuning business, when he was only two years old. But his mother made sure that her children went back every year to stay in a farmhouse near the cottage. They knew all its woods and footpaths by heart.

They were a family with a strong sense of continuity, hoarders of documents and memories, and for Edward the cottage came to represent a legendary, visionary infancy going back beyond conscious memory. After he married, he brought his wife to see it, and in the 1920s he was still on the lookout for a house in the village.

"So you have been to Broadheath — I fear you did not find the cottage — it is nearer the clump of Scotch firs — I can smell them now — in the hot sun. Oh! How cruel that I was not there — there's nothing between that infamy and now . . ." he wrote to a friend when he was 60.

"He must have taken me there at least ten times with the dogs," says his godson, Wulstan Atkins, who is now chairman of the Birthplace Trust. "He would knock at the door, explain who he was, and ask if he could peep inside or look at the garden."

The cottage was entirely unremarkable in its time, though it is more distinctive today, simply because it has never been embellished with pebbledash, garish or picture window. In the main the surroundings are as Elgar would



Broadheath: "Elgar would knock at the door, explain who he was, and ask if he could peep inside or look at the garden."

'Elgar would have used that path, and I don't think it should be moved for the sake of a car park'

Prince Charles has approved all these changes," he says. "This thing is at least ten times the size of the cottage. The trustees are simply missing the whole point about the birthplace."

Mr and Mrs McKenzie fear that Elgar's almost mystical relationship with the Malvern countryside is being forgotten in an obsession with providing audio-visual displays and facilities for car-bound tourists.

Bill Allington, a farmer and a former birthplace trustee, is one of a number of villagers who oppose a diversion of the bridleway. "Elgar would have used that path, and I don't think it should be moved for the sake of a car park."

The Prince of Wales is reluctant to be seen as exercising an undue influence on the controversy. Dr Brian Hanson, an architect who has been advising him on the

project, confirms that the Prince has been shown the latest plans as a matter of courtesy, but does not want to intervene publicly: "We're not the last word on this. The Prince wants the plans to be taken now to public consultation, and the planners and public to have their say."

"We have been guided in deciding what to do by the Museums and Galleries Commission, which formally recognised us last year as the museum of national status for Elgar," says David Hawkins, one of the trustees. "We need a new space to introduce people to Elgar and to put him into historical and local context. I think local objections centre mainly on the bridleway, and the final decision on that is still open to negotiation."

Some members of the Elgar Society have proposed that a better

home for a visitor centre would be in St Nicholas's church in Worcester itself. The church is redundant, and the Church Commissioners would be happy to find an alternative use for it. But it is a large building, and the upkeep problems for its handsome but neglected Georgian stonework would clearly be considerable.

Wulstan Atkins has no doubt that the trustees are doing the right thing: "Elgar would have been the first to approve of the centre, provided it is at the back of the cottage. It was the front that he cared about, with its view towards the Malvern Hills."

Yet even in the scaled-down form now proposed, there is no doubt that the new centre would change the atmosphere of the spot. If the number of visitors continues to rise, it will change anyway, and in ways that may be more damaging both to the museum and its surroundings. By decreeing where his museum should be, Elgar may have killed the thing he loved. Deeply understanding as he did the poignancy of change, and the impossibility of ever going back to a yearned-for past, the irony is one that he would recognise well.

The man with two wives

The West may have something to learn from the 'sister wife', who shares clothes, children — and a husband

The concept of a "sister wife" — an Urdu term for two wives openly sharing the same husband — is unfamiliar in this country, but not as rare as you might think. Such a marriage is the subject for a ground-breaking film to be shown on BBC2 on Sunday.

My Sister Wife tells the story of Farah, a clever, independent, thoroughly British Asian girl who falls in love with a married Asian businessman. But he will not get a divorce. A familiar story — except that being a Muslim, he offers to marry her as well. The Muslim wedding ceremony of *Nikah* is not recognised as marriage in English law, so there is no question of bigamy.

Farah marries him on the assumption that they will soon set up a separate home. But time goes by and she discovers this is not going to happen. She has to come to terms with her sister wife, Maryam, the mother of his children.

The fluctuating drama of their relationship is the basis of a fascinating film, which raises not just Muslim or Asian issues but wider human ones. After all, extra unofficial wives are not unknown in normal British society. Sometimes they only discover each other's existence at the funeral.

The film is a co-operative production based on discussions and research by three women — Asmaa Pirzada, the script editor, who thought up the idea; Ruth Baumgarten, the producer; and Meera Syal, who wrote the script and plays Farah. The couple — or rather triples — who offered their experiences as background mostly wanted to remain anonymous. But they included K.D. Patel, who came to Britain as a refugee from Amin's Uganda and made himself a millionaire in the garage business. He is quite open about his domestic



Three's company: Meera Syal is pictured on the right happiness with both Mrs Patel: the elder helps manage the business and the younger is a Brent councillor.

Ms Pirzada, a Muslim, and Ms Syal, a Hindu, both already knew of multiple marriages, but found the research eye-opening just the same. "My grandfather in Pakistan had two wives," Ms Pirzada says, "but both of us were brought up in Britain. We are Western women with monogamous relationships. Meeting wives who share their marriages, we asked the same sort of questions anyone would — do you mind when the husband sleeps with the other wife? Do you lock the bathroom door? Do you wear one another's clothes?"

"The wives thought these questions banal — they were beyond all that. We discovered that the rationale of sharing a husband comes out of their communal approach to the family — it's not the 'me, me, me' thing it is in the West. They see families as joint enterprises for mutual benefit. The older wife has the right of approval of the second wife and, if it is a success, she looks on her as a younger sister. One of them said to us: 'If she bleeds, I hurt. Her children are my children. Only the West thinks sharing is a weak thing to do.'"

Surely this complaisant sharing stops short at the bedroom — or bedrooms, for each wife has her own? When, as often happens, the man takes a much younger second wife, one would expect there to be sexual jealousy, which is explored in the film. "It isn't necessarily so," Ms Pirzada says. "One older wife told us,

'One of them said to us: If she bleeds, I hurt. Her children are my children'

ASMAA PIRZADA

"I can't compete with her — but why should I? Another said what a relief it was when she was having her children, that there was someone else for her husband to sleep with."

One of the wives was indeed jealous because she had been deceived over the existence of her rival right up to the marriage. So she refused to have the second wife in her house. The husband divided his time equally between both households.

"One wife said to me that she was sick of being told that hers was a barbaric arrangement," Ms Pirzada says. "How much more barbaric, she asked, is a system that makes Cecil Parkinson's wife out a martyr and makes him reject the other woman he loved and her child?"

A third of British marriages end in divorce, and most petitions are brought by women, points out Ms Baumgarten. Western culture, with its emphasis on sexual allure, sets women in competition with one another. So when a man takes a younger mistress, the wife cannot be seen to accept it because of the loss of face. In the film, Farah has to unlearn this attitude.

If it is better to accept than to be left, perhaps the less competitive East has a lesson to teach the West? "The film doesn't offer any solutions, but it does question the Western myth of overpowering romantic passion — the idea that one who has it has to last you for life and must blind you to all other possibilities. That doesn't do justice to the complexities of life," Ms Baumgarten says.

Ms Pirzada adds: "Women in their late twenties and early thirties think, 'Oh, God, I must knuckle down to having the children by finding that one man who will fulfil all my needs for life.' But in a triangle nobody is expected to be all things to another person. It could take the heat off the relationship."

Nevertheless, it was the man who had the best of both partnerships in the film, not the women. Would it work the other way round? "We may have to make another film to explore that."

PETER LEWIS

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Not a fraud after all?

An attempt to rehabilitate the reputation of the late Sir Cyril Burt, the founding father of British educational psychology, faces a crucial test later this week.

The Council of the British Psychological Society, at its meeting on Saturday, will decide whether to call for a re-investigation of Burt, discredited after his death for falsifying his research into the inheritance of intelligence.

A number of senior members of the society, unable to believe that Burt would stoop to fraudulence and deceit, have pressed for the case to be reopened. At its last council meeting the society responded to the call by asking the vice-president, Professor Peter Morris of Lancaster University, and the president-elect, Dr Ed Miller of the health department, to make a preliminary investigation and report back.

They will do so on Saturday. So far, there have been no hints of their conclusions, but the supporters of Burt remain confident. Since charges were first laid against him in the 1970s, further evidence has emerged to suggest that the society, and Burt's biographer Leslie Hearnshaw, may have been too quick to accept them. Two recent books have defended Burt and have inspired the efforts to rehabilitate him.

One of the leaders of the campaign is Dr Clare Burstall, director of the National Foundation for Educational Research. "I feel that anybody who has read Burt's books could not but believe that he was a man of total honesty and integrity. The charges against him simply don't stand up to scrutiny – they're rubbish," she says.

In educational circles, Burt is principally remembered as the man who created the 11-plus. His studies of intelligence had convinced him that it was largely inherited, and that the answers to questions in an intelligence test provided a fair measure of a child's potential. While environment or family background might affect performance in academic subjects, IQ tests made objective distinctions between children possible.

Burt based his findings on

studies of identical twins separated at birth and adopted by different families. Since such twins share exactly the same genes, they start out with the same chances. By measuring their IQ later in life, Burt was able to assess how much it had been influenced by the environment into which they had been adopted. He concluded that heredity was far more important than environment in determining intelligence.

Studies of this kind are very hard to do, as the numbers of separated twins are never going to be large. By the end of his life, Burt claimed to have studied 53 such pairs of twins, more than twice as many as any previous attempt.

The curious feature of his results, first noticed by Princeton psychologist Leon Kamin, was that as the number of twins studied rose from 20 to 53, the very high correlation between the IQ of the pairs remained the same, and the third place of decimals. Statistically, this is impossible, and the charge was made that Burt had simply invented many of his twin pairs to buttress his conviction that intelligence was overwhelmingly inherited.

Further doubt was cast on his work when it proved impossible to trace two women cited as co-authors on later papers – Margaret Howard and J. Conway.

Finally, Leslie Hearnshaw, given the task of writing a biography of Burt after his death in 1971, examined the evidence and concluded with reluctance that it proved the case. Burt had invented his results and even created shadow colleagues to make it look more convincing. The pillar of educational psychology was a fraud. In 1980 the council of the

British Psychological Society accepted Hearnshaw's arguments as "evidence of fraud".

From the beginning, the argument was bedevilled by political prejudice. Those who sought to discredit Burt were libertarians reluctant to believe that nothing we do can improve the intelligence of our children – or, worse, that there may be inbuilt genetic differences in the intelligence of different racial groups. Those who supported Burt were seen as reactionaries, believers in hereditary principles, even racists. In such a poisoned atmosphere, the truth has to struggle hard to find the light.

Nevertheless, for most people

Hearnshaw's book seemed to bring the issue to a close. Stephen Jay Gould has written, in *The Mismeasure of Man*, that he was convinced that Burt was not merely a deviant person trying to bolster hereditary views by doctoring the data, but a "sick and tortured man".

That the argument has begun to swing

back is largely due to two more recent books, *The Burt Affair* by Robert Joyson, and *Science, Ideology and the Media*, by Ronald Fletcher.

Joyson took another look at Hearnshaw's biography, and found in it a catalogue of errors "so frequent and widespread that they are highly likely to be discovered by anyone who sets out to check wherever they begin their inquiry". Joyson claims that Hearnshaw was as cavalier with the data as he accused Burt of being, using selective quotation and third-hand and unconfirmed evidence to bolster the case. He concedes that near the end of his long life Burt did show some

frailties, but that the bulk of his work was sound and deserves respect.

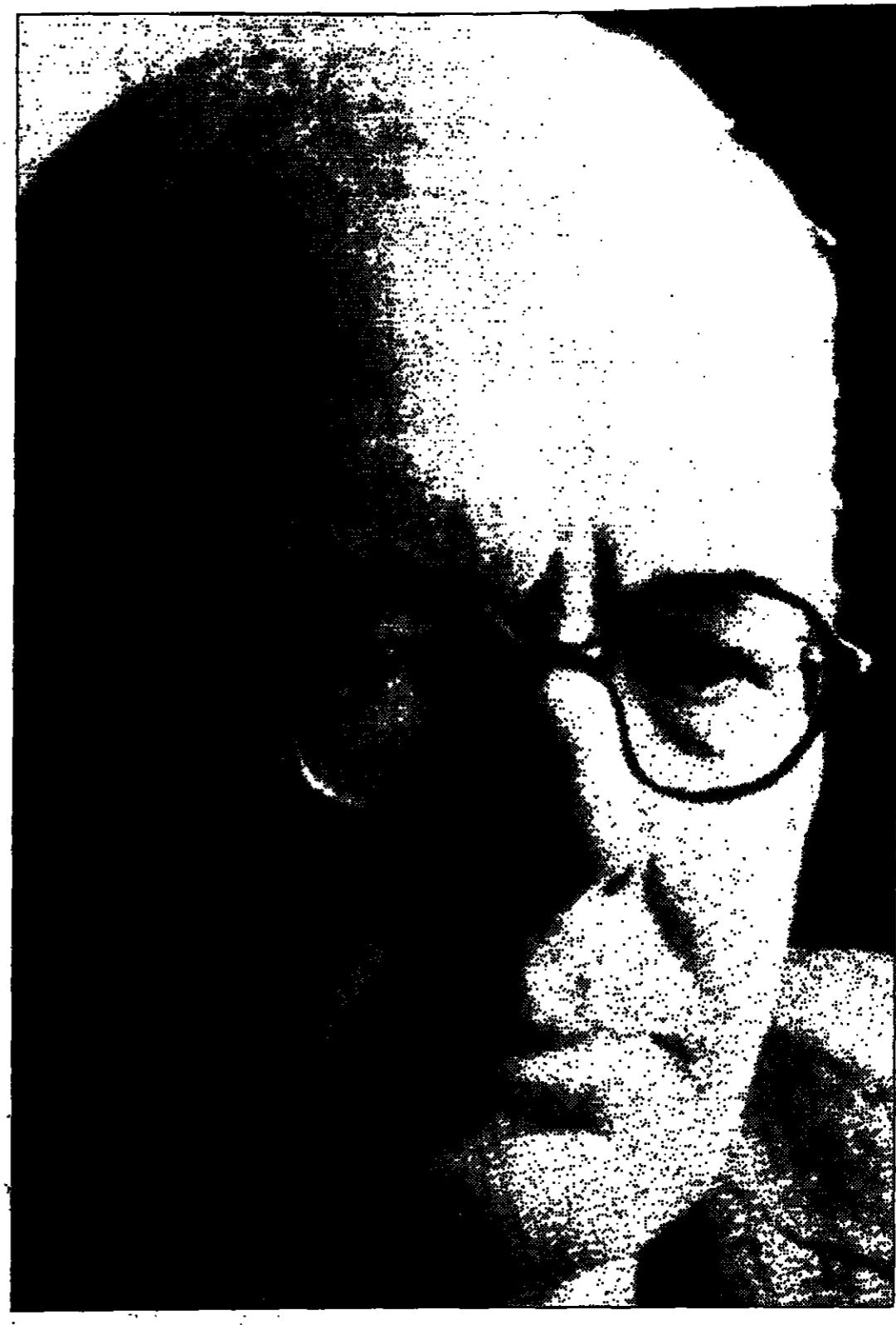
Curiously, Burt's central contention is now much less controversial than it was. Dr Burstall says: "There is now so much corroborative evidence that intelligence is largely inherited that the details of Burt's work don't matter a hang. It is difficult to put figures on it, but it is perfectly clear that there is a large inheritance of intelligence which can be affected for good or evil by the environment." Among child psychologists, the important role of heredity in determining intelligence is not in question.

In addition, some of the colourful details used to hang Burt – such as the non-existence of the two collaborators – are being sharply questioned. "There are independent witnesses who knew the missing ladies," says Dr Burstall. The widow of a man who worked with Margaret Howard has spoken up, and the son and daughter of the other assistant, Jane Conway, have provided statements.

According to Mrs Heather Cole, her husband Alexander had worked with Miss Howard, but by the time the allegations against Burt were made he was too ill to come forward and provide evidence. "I have always said that if the case was revived I would speak up because I felt so strongly," she has said.

On Saturday's meeting will be given a report by the two senior members depicted to examine the evidence, and the council will then have to decide how to take the matter forward. Burt's defenders, a group of ten led by Professor Bill Wall, want the council to recommend a full examination by an independent body such as the Royal Society. The council may agree to this, or they may decide that there is insufficient evidence to reopen the question.

Whatever the verdict, Clare Burstall is not going to give up. "I'm not going to let it die, anyway. I've got the bit between my teeth."



Politically incorrect: Sir Cyril Burt's theories about heredity and intelligence offended many

NOTICEBOARD

Student mentors

Sheffield University has joined forces with the city's education authority to try to raise the proportion of young people in the region going on to further and higher education.

Six Sheffield schools serving communities with no tradition of post-16 education are to take part in a pilot project using university students as mentors and taking pupils to the university for educational and social activities. After 16, the pupils will take courses approved by the university in further education colleges, culminating in a degree once agreed targets have been reached.

Unequal share

The 136 schools that have opted out of local authority control have taken a fifth of the £25 million set aside by the government for its Technology Schools Initiative. Derek Fatchett, Labour's education spokesman, said yesterday that children in grant maintained schools were receiving seven times as much as those in local authority schools.

Teaming up

Higher education colleges are anticipating the demise of the

Council for National Academic Awards, in 1993, by forming new relationships with neighbouring universities. Three colleges have announced changes this month: The West London Institute of Higher Education will become a college of Brunel University, the West Sussex Institute will be an accredited college of Southampton University, and Glasgow University will validate degrees at Glasgow School of Art.

Recruiting

Almost 200 leading independent schools will be represented at the British education exhibition in Hong Kong this week. Classes of 50 pupils are common in Hong Kong, and growing numbers of parents are sending their children to schools in Britain instead.

Teaching AIDS

A leading AIDS charity yesterday urged the government to bring people with personal experience of the disease into the classroom, rather than relying on the national curriculum to cover the subject. AIDS Care Education and Training, which produces information packs and sends educators into schools, claimed that experience showed children responding more positively to those who have cared for AIDS sufferers.

JOHN O'LEARY

End of History debate

The author Francis Fukuyama has set the scene in 1999 he said that a liberal democracy will be the only viable political system in a post-ideological world. Provocative enough. Now, in his new book, *The End of History and the Last Man* (to be published here on March 5 by Hamish Hamilton), he has expanded his thoughts. Is he right? Is this the sort of future we really face?

Do Fukuyama's arguments, strongly expressed in today's accompanying article

stand up? If not, why not?

The Times has invited Francis Fukuyama to qualify his views at a testing debate: The End of History debate, at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1, on Thursday March 5, starting at 7.30pm.

The chairman will be Simon Jenkins, the editor of The Times. The speakers will include Norman Stone, Professor of Modern History, Oxford; Roger Scruton, Professor of Aesthetics.

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In praise of traditional values

The high master of St Paul's has little time for 'egalitarian delusions', John Rae reports

A public school headmaster who says bluntly that the introduction of comprehensive schools was a disaster and that the preservation of A-level standards should be at the heart of government policy on secondary education, is not likely to receive a standing ovation from the National Union of Teachers; nor, for that matter, from the Headmasters' Conference, anxious as that body has always been not to offend those who work in state schools.

The Reverend Canon Peter Pilkington, high master of St Paul's School and shortly to become chairman of the Broadcasting Complaints Commission, has no such inhibitions. His denunciation of what he calls "egalitarian delusions" was published last year by the Thatcherite Centre for Policy Studies.

Put like that, it might sound an archetypal backwoodsman but his diagnosis of what is wrong with British education is not a defence of the status quo. As a historian, he sees clearly the consequences of Britain's failure to produce technical schools and to value vocational education. What he advo-

cates is "different education for different talents" – two separate but equally prestigious paths post-16, one technically based and leading to a national vocational qualification on the Franco-German model, the other academically based and leading to A-levels.

I put it to him that the officers-and-other-ranks mentality was still so dominant in British life that the separate tracks would never achieve "parity of esteem". It would be a challenge, he admits, but at least his way was a chance of getting it right, whereas the introduction of a unitary comprehensive system post-16 was bound to be a disaster.

Canon Pilkington's ideas are unfashionable in education circles but not in the school he runs. "We are traditionalists," he says, "and that though was enough to explain the school's remarkable record. Of all the independent schools with pretensions to academic excellence St Paul's has been the most consistently successful. A hundred years ago, Ramsay Asquith, a boy at Winchester, reckoned that if



Canon Peter Pilkington: new chairman of the Broadcasting Complaints Commission

was to win a Balliol scholarship it was the clever boys from St Paul's he had to beat. Nothing has changed.

I am sure I was not the only head of a rival school who pondered the secret of St Paul's success. According to Canon Pilkington, one of St Paul's advantages is that, despite its traditional teaching, it is not a traditional public school; from its origins in the Renaissance, it prizes intellect above all and it developed a secular ethos long before the other public schools.

It waived the baptismal requirement in Victorian times, whereas Westminster scholars still had to "profess the Christian faith" until the

1970s. "Beneficent, benevolent, was Sir Isaiah Berlin's comment on the influence of his school days there. "I became respectful of books and the life of the intellect."

Canon Pilkington's own career, from humble background to Cambridge, via a grammar school in the north east, exemplifies the triumph of intellectual rigour over social disadvantage. He has no time for snobbery or for that middle-class guilt that allowed some former public schoolmen to collaborate in the destruction of the grammar schools. He defends A-levels, not because he wishes scholars still had to "profess the Christian faith" until the

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Take the law out of the curriculum

Stuart Sexton (below) takes a principled stand on the government's plans to dictate what children learn

I am a strong supporter of the Conservatives' educational reform programme. The success of Education Acts since 1979 has restored the position of consumers in the education market, given parents more choice, and made schools more accountable and ready to respond to parental demands, including demands for proper content and quality in the curriculum. Why, then, do I think that a legislative National Curriculum is wrong both in principle and in practice?

It was Lord Joseph, in his term of office as education secretary, who sought to get a more structured curriculum by a series of measures outlined in his 1985 circular *Better Schools*. But he expressly rejected the idea that Parliament should legislate a curriculum. Not only could he see the dangers of political control of the content of education, but he also knew that already in the pipeline were all the other plans for releasing market forces – giving schools control over their own budgets and increasing parental choice by opening up admissions procedures and creating grant maintained schools and city technology colleges.

However, things went wrong when Kenneth Baker decided to adopt a belt and braces approach. While pushing

through LMS, grant maintained schools and CTCs – moves to raise standards as well as increase effectiveness – he also took direct central government control of the curriculum. We now have a national curriculum by law, with all the bureaucratic apparatus of attainment targets, programmes of study, government control of examinations, technology tests for seven-year-olds, and the rest.

This is wrong in principle because politicians should not have the power to dictate, and in detail, what our children should and should not learn. And it is wrong in practice because the so-called experts appointed to exercise the government's power override the professionalism of the teachers.

Can it really make sense that a small panel of "experts" decides the standard and content of technology for

seven-year-olds? At the little school I started six years ago, Wansingham Park School, we have been pursuing such work in greater diversity and to a higher standard than is being required; ought we now to lower our sights?

Still, what is done is done. Maybe the educational establishment had to be jolted out

of its complacency. But what should be done after the general election?

I hope that with an incoming Conservative government, the whole exercise will be declared to have been the trick, to have returned schools to the basics and to higher standards, and that the developing market of schools under grant-maintained status can take over and maintain a dynamic system responsive to parental demands and children's needs.

I hope that SEAC and NCC, and the whole panoply of control, will be wound up within months. I hope the examinations system will be returned to genuinely independent boards. I hope that the tentative measures already taken to improve teacher training, will be expanded upon. Select and train the right people to be your teachers; and you can drop all this bureaucratic control.

The author was political adviser to former education secretary Lord Joseph



TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18 1992

7

LAW TIMES

A contemptible mess

Confusion in the courts means the press cannot know where contempt begins, Antony Whitaker says

A stipendiary magistrate last November directed that the teenage victim of a manslaughter charge (since withdrawn) should not be named in the media so as to give the boy the benefit of section 39 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933.

This was aimed at preserving anonymity for the young against the disturbing notoriety that comes with newsworthy cases. But the magistrate, Dudley Thomas, overlooked the fact that the boy, Jason Swift, had actually died six years before. When a journalist pointed this out the next day to another magistrate, Peter Badge, he at once revoked the order.

In a second case, on January 14, the *Plymouth Evening Herald* took the Maxwell brothers to task for their silence before a Commons select committee. An indignant Judge Overend demanded the *Herald's* immediate attendance to explain away, if it could, the prejudicial impact of the article on the jury hearing a case before him, were either of the accused in that case to choose not to give evidence. He refused any adjournment, and gave the paper just ten minutes to find counsel.

Heather Burwin came to the rescue. She referred the judge to section 5 of the Contempt of Court Act, 1981, and the article in that day's *Times* headed "There is no right to silence", and persuaded that the *Herald* had any incident of prejudice was subordinate to the requirement of the freedom to debate matters of public interest. But the paper is now left wondering why it, rather than the public press, should have to foot the bill for what seemed peremptory judicial displeasure.

These examples might seem trivial. But they could be multiplied country-wide. Compared with *Spycatcher*, where *The Sunday Times* was unjustly silenced for over a year, they are mere blips on the judicial screen and commonplace among the hazards of journalism. But in the wider context of the law of contempt, they show how far the law, and judicial attitudes, have retreated from the philosophy of the Contempt of

Ten years on, where is that? Sadly, a long way outside the garden gate. Today, journalists must pick their way across a mine-strewn landscape where survival tends to be short-term. Judicial concern



for press freedoms has been at best peripheral, and at worst non-existent.

Orders forbidding reports of open court proceedings because they are potentially prejudicial developed from a tricicle to almost tidal-wave proportions. In the years to July 1989, while judges occasionally allowed the press to address them, newspapers had no formal right to be heard at all on the merits of whether they should be allowed to report trials.

This meant that courts became conditioned to believing that considerations other than those put forward by the parties were irrelevant.

In 1989 the media were given a right of audience, but it is severely limited: it confines any challenge to trials in the crown court, and until last autumn, could be exercised only on appeal once a banning order had been made.

On September 26, the Court of Appeal sensibly suggested that crown court judges should allow the media to put their case either at the start of the trial or at the earlier pre-trial review stage.

Less than a year after the contempt act was passed, in a case involving the *Daily Mail*, an insular aside from Lord Diplock declared that

The Sunday Times would be no more at liberty to publish its thalidomide article after the act than before.

What was the point of *The Sunday Times* establishing a principle in Strasbourg merely to have it scorned at the first opportunity by the English courts? A complaint to the European Committee of Ministers about this volte-face went unheeded, and the legal position is unchanged today.

Lord Hailsham's belief that clarity would replace the confusion of the "imminence" rule must surely rank as the self-delusion of the century. The act set a timetable for the "high-risk" period of strict liability shortly before the trial - when the media had to be particularly sensitive to the need not to create prejudice - which was relatively easy to apply.

But nobody recognised the time bomb of section 6(c) ticking away in the background. In cases originating from 1986, this provision, penalising "intentional" contempt, has been interpreted to erode both the certainty and the time limits of the strict liability rule. This has effectively re-established the doctrine of "imminence" in the law.

Worse, this issue is now trapped in a web of legal controversy. In fining *The Sun* £75,000 in February 1988, a two-judge divisional

court decided that material, published well before any arrest or charge, amounted to "deliberate" contempt where it implied a belief in the guilt of someone likely to be prosecuted. But in a case against *The Sun* in May 1991, two judges of another divisional court differed between themselves on the same point, where the prejudice was said to arise from the revelation of a murderer suspect's previous convictions.

Editors therefore do not know exactly where they stand under the present law: their only certainty is that testing the legal boundaries will be depressingly expensive.

For remedies, one could suggest, if not abolishing then at least severely curtailing sections 4 and 6 of the act, giving as much emphasis to the media's rights to challenge reporting bans, in all courts, as to the parties' rights to have them imposed.

Far more credit should be given to juries for their ability,

in the words of Lord Justice Lawton, "to look at a matter fairly even though they may have to disregard what they may have read in a newspaper". The concentration required in any criminal trial is sufficient to make conscientious jurors totally oblivious to media comment.

The law should be reviewed with article 10 of the European Convention far more in mind than our legislators or judges have done so far.

On the day the act came into force, I said in this newspaper: "It will undoubtedly require a conscious effort of adjustment by English judges to break out of the mould of their thinking hitherto - but unless they do, the European exercise and its consolidation into English law will have been a worthless and abortive exercise." I believe that is precisely what has happened.

• The author is the legal manager of *Times Newspapers*

Mushroom partners

THE solicitor billed by his firm as one of the partners may have as little say in the running of the firm as the office cleaner. Many partners are salaried and, unlike the office cleaner, have precious little employment protection.

Laura Watson, the

solicitor who sued her former partners at the Kent firm of Argles & Court, was a salaried partner. During the hearing it was alleged that some of her former partners had behaved like "toads" and had frog-marched her from the premises. She lost her claim for damages for slander. Her case highlights the vulnerable position of salaried partners, who often have all the disadvantages of being a partner and none of the advantages.

Solicitors' firms are controlled by equity partners who are so called because they control the capital or equity of the firm. They share in the profits of the firm. Also shown as partners on the firm's letterhead will be salaried partners who have no capital in the firm and receive either a salary or fixed sum as a share of the profits. The partner who gets a fixed share in the profits will be self-employed and have none of the employee's protection from unfair dismissal. Many salaried partners are women and they have no entitlement to maternity benefits.

They are often excluded from important partners' meetings and have no say in what the firm does. Despite this, because they are called partners, they are just as liable as the

other partners for the firm's debts and other liabilities.

The status of the salaried partner is often low and they are nicknamed "mushrooms" because they are kept in the dark by the equity partners.

Solicitors' insurance premiums against professional negligence claims used to be based on the number of partners and this gave firms an incentive to keep the number low. Many solicitors were then described as "associates".

The basis of calculating the insurance premiums was changed in 1984 from a fixed premium per partner to a percentage of the firm's turnover. Very rapidly the associates became partners on the newspaper.

In most cases their positions had changed very little but the firm was able to appear larger and at the same time reduce its obligations to its employees.

Because the Law Society Master Policy for professional negligence insurance offered reductions in premiums for firms with a high ratio of partners to staff, some firms could actually save on their insurance costs by making assistant solicitors into partners on a fixed share of the profits. The partner who gets a fixed share in the profits will be self-employed and have none of the employee's protection from unfair dismissal. Many salaried partners are women and they have no entitlement to maternity benefits.

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BRIEF

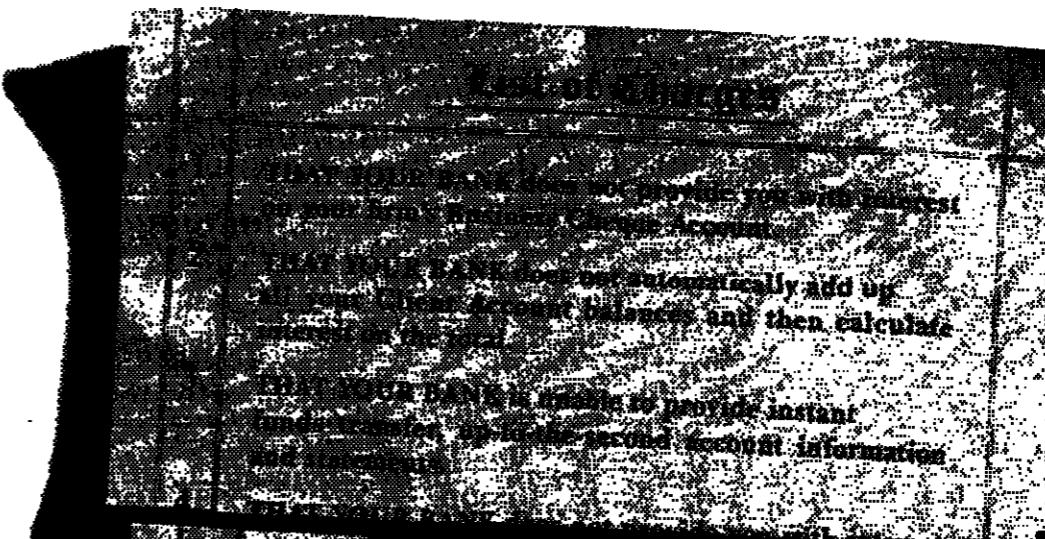
PATRICK STEVENS

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• The author is a practising solicitor

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Fine for some

LAWYERS who are disciplined by their bar association could also face a fine of up to \$100,000 under a proposed bill in California. Other professionals who fall foul of the rules are already fined and some California legislators argue that the same sanction should apply to lawyers. The fine would be imposed whether or not the lawyer had stolen clients' funds.

The only other state in the United States to fine lawyers is Nevada, where the upper limit is \$500. The move coincides with the run-up to the American Bar Association meeting, where proposals to make the whole disciplinary procedure more open to public scrutiny will be discussed. The association believes that it is necessary to be seen to be effectively sanctioning rogue lawyers if the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession is to be preserved.

Fair lesson

ONE of the highlights in the stormy mass rally of 2,000 lawyers last week was the largely unreported speech by Gareth Williams, QC, chairman of the Bar. To rousing applause, he said he had one thing in common with the Lord Chancellor and it was spending many hours as a child in Sunday school. "But the difference is that I listened to what the preacher said. The lawyer is worthy of his hire," Mr Williams told them. "But he wants his reward in this world, not the next."

The Bar chairman said he liked and respected the Lord Chancellor and bore him no ill will. But he had brought lawyers together out of "deep anger at being treated like dogs". Nobody, he said, "gets fat on legal aid work. What we demand is prompt payment of money earned: fair

Regional coup

HAMMONDS Suddards, the Yorkshire law firm with offices in London and Brussels, has effectively taken over ICI's in-house litigation department.

The firm has been awarded a contract to handle ICI's litigation work in the UK, and as part of the deal three ICI solicitors become partners in the firm. More ICI legal, managerial and support staff are expected to follow. Most of the work previously handled in-house by ICI, will be dealt with from the firm's London office.

Good sport

SPORTS and the law are in the news this week. David Gower, the cricketer, is to act as "media consultant" to a new public relations consultancy, Head Public Relations, which is aimed at the legal profession. The idea is that smaller firms who cannot afford full-time public relations can use Head only when they need advice. Gower says: "Most solicitors have no experience in dealing with the press."

The same week, it was announced that Brian Moore, hooker and vice-captain of England, had joined the commercial law firm, Edward Lewis & Co. The firm wanted to emphasise Moore was joining "on the strength of his legal acumen rather than his role as a rugby international".

Marshall law

CAN European law entitle industrial tribunals to override upper limits on compensation imposed by English law? The House of Lords has asked the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg to clarify the issue, which has arisen in the case of *Marshall v Southampton and South Hampshire Area Health Authority*. Helen Marshall has already been to Luxembourg



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Our advice in these hard times is to be patient. We have placed several candidates this month whose c.v.s. were originally submitted last September/October. In one case, there was a delay of two months after the second interview. The candidate assumed the job had gone; in fact, the firm was waiting for major clients to commit themselves to future work. Two years ago, if you got an offer three weeks after the second interview it meant you were probably not the first choice. Their first (and perhaps second) offer had been turned down. Today, if you do get an offer you probably are first choice, even if you have had to wait two months. Delays in recruitment should no longer be taken to mean 'No'.

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As safe as house agents

Richard Houseago
examines the
responsibility
of employers to
care for the safety
of their workers

The kidnapping of Stephanie Slater raises the question of the responsibility of employers for the safety of their employees while at work. Miss Slater, who was released after her kidnapper was paid a ransom, may wonder whether or not she has a case to sue her employers for damages.

In cases of other attacks on people going about the course of their work, the obligation of the employer to ensure their employees' safety has not received full effect. In the Stephanie Slater case, would the employer be considered to owe or to have discharged any duty of care towards her?

Many employees dealing with the general public are at risk from attack. Victims in recent months have included nurses, social workers, transport and shop-workers. Now probation officers have threatened to strike because of more attacks on them.

The employer has a statutory obligation for the health and safety of employees, and the extension of this obligation to guarding against criminal assault is, in principle, clear. The courts, however, have shown a marked reluctance to uphold claims against an employer.

This is possibly because of the availability of an award from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB). Courts seem to consider this a satisfactory remedy for the victim; however, this has meant that the obligation for health and safety on the part of the employer has not been fully brought to bear.

First, an employer's willingness to implement greater preventive measures may be increased by the threat of damages, even if they are to be funded by liability insurers. Second, from the victim's point of view, compensation from the employer might not only be greater than that received from the CICB, but often the claim might be settled sooner.



Back in her father's arms: Stephanie Slater is unlikely to be able to claim against her employers after being kidnapped at work

Lastly, since the CICB awards are publicly funded, the question could be asked: is it right that the public should bear the cost where the employer might be considered at fault?

As yet, no court of authority has found in favour of an employee claiming compensation from the employer after assault. The type of cases from which the courts have established the general principle are rather distinct from high-profile kidnappings, but are still relevant. They have generally been of an attack by robbers on employees collecting wages, or delivering takings to the bank. Such a case was *Charlton v The Forrest Printing Ink Company Ltd* (1980), which remains the leading authority in this area.

Mr Charlton was almost blinded when a flask of ammonia was smashed in his face by robbers; the court had to decide whether his employers were at fault in exposing him to the risk of attack.

The case confirmed the general principle that an employer who does not take steps to eliminate a foreseeable risk (and not just a mere possibility that would not occur to a reasonable person) may be regarded as negligent. On the facts of the case, the court declined to make an award in favour of Mr Charlton, finding that reasonable steps had been taken to eliminate, as far as possible, the risk. In all related cases, of which there have been a number, the same principle

has consistently been upheld, but in no case has an award actually been made. Some cynics would take that as being an indication of public policy.

The key issue therefore is the foreseeability or likelihood of the risk to the employee: there must be more than a mere possibility, which I believe would be the finding in any case of kidnapping.

Although the judiciary has been slow to make use of the overriding principle of a duty of care, which they have established, the industrial tribunals concerned with employees' dismissal claims have been more ready to make awards. In *Keyes v Shoejaye Ltd* (1978), an employee, the manager of a shoe shop in Peckham,

south London, felt pressured to leave her job after a number of violent robberies and following several requests to her employers to improve security. Her case for constructive dismissal was upheld on the basis that her working conditions were so unsafe that she had no option but to quit. The industrial tribunal readily found that, although by the nature of the claim Ms Keyes's award was modest.

A claim for damages by Ms Slater would be likely to fail; as times change, however, and in a case of a threatened nurse in the casualty ward, health authorities might be on their guard.

• The author is a partner with the London solicitors, Jarvis & Bannister

When in Rome, get a computer and fax

Edward Fennell finds that English firms are exploring links with the Italians

Italy may feel left out this year as Spain, its Mediterranean neighbour and rival, hogs the attention with the Olympic Games, Expo 92 and the festivities marking the arrival in the Americas in 1492 of Columbus – who was Genoese, not Spanish.

The celebrations are a magnet for business and a number of international law firms have been drawn to Madrid and Barcelona. Italy has been attracting less interest, despite her bigger population and more advanced economy.

A few law firms are taking Italy seriously. Simmons & Simmons has seconded a senior assistant solicitor in the company and banking field to the Milan firm, Studio Avv. Eugenio Grippo, with which Simmons & Simmons has worked closely for many years. Penningtons now has four partners fluent in Italian and an assistant lawyer qualified in both English and Italian law.

According to Michael Nathanson, a Penningtons partner, English lawyers have been very popular in Italy because doing business there depends on personal relationships, perhaps more than it does anywhere else, and it takes time to adjust to Italian ways.

"Unless you have an Italian lawyer to provide friendship and support, there doing business there is very tough," Mr Nathanson says.

But there is still business to be done. Penningtons is heavily involved in Italian litigation and some banking work and Mr Nathanson detects gradual changes in attitude as the Italian business community catches a little of the 1992 Euro-fever.

In Rome there has been a fission of interest in the recent alliance between the Studio Legale Associato and Frere Cholmeley, the London firm.

Studio Legale Associato is a recent partnership formed by four Italian lawyers and one American who broke away (as Italian lawyers tend to do) from one of the largest law offices in town.

According to Antonello Corrado, a founder partner of Studio Legale Associato, the old firm was fractured by a disagreement over direction: he and

others wanted the firm to become a genuinely modern international law practice and the rest of the firm disagreed, so Mr Corrado and his friends left.

Once their ambitions were known, they were soon approached by several London firms. They chose to join up with Frere Cholmeley, which had already established an office in Milan.

When Italian regulations permit they will join Frere Cholmeley in a multinational partnership. For now, they will be as close as possible without merging. "We are sure we have done the right thing," said Mr Corrado. "There is a growing interest in the Italian business community in the kind of service we can provide."

Perhaps more importantly, inward investors from northern Europe and the United States may be keen to deal with an Italian law firm that is tuned in to the Anglo-American way of doing things. Uniquely for Italy, Studio Legale Associato's offices bristle with computers and faxes. It is already picking up Scandinavian clients of Frere Cholmeley who are switching from other Italian lawyers to get a more familiar style of service.

Tim Razzell, the managing partner at Frere Cholmeley, says making the Rome connection completed an important Italian loop. "Milan and Rome are like New York and Washington. While Milan is excellent for the commercial community, as soon as you are doing anything to do with the government or regulatory bodies, when you need permissions, you need to be in Rome."

"By establishing this formal collaboration with Studio Legale Associato we are working with people who can steer our clients through the Italian bureaucracy."

Mr Razzell, feigning the unease of the lonely pioneer, says: "Either we're ahead of the game or everyone else knows something we don't!" But with 1992, Spanish-Italian business is expected to grow quickly. Columbus may not be the last Italian to see his fortune lying in the West – and Frere Cholmeley also has a Spanish office.

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TON - LEASING
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Seeking bail after hearing

Regina v Calder Justices, Ex parte Kennedy
Before Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Brooke
(Judgment February 7)

Where justices came to the conclusion that a defendant need not be granted bail because it had not been practicable to obtain sufficient information to decide whether not to grant it, that was not a decision not to grant bail.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in quashing the refusal of Calder Justices on December 2, 1991 to hear a bail application on behalf of Sean Francis Kennedy.

Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule I to the Bail Act 1976 provides: "The defendant need not be granted bail where the court is satisfied that it has not been practicable to obtain sufficient information for the purpose of taking the decisions required by this part of the schedule for want of time since the institution of the proceedings against him."

Paragraph 2 of Part II A of Schedule I to the 1976 Act, as substituted by section 154 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, provides:

"At the first hearing after that at which the court decided not to grant the defendant bail he may support an application for bail with any argument as to fact or law that he desires (whether or not he has advanced that argument previously.)"

On a true construction, the words "at the first hearing after that at which the court decided not to grant the defendant bail" in paragraph 2 of Part II A of the 1976 Act, as substituted, referred to a decision other than a decision

against Tracy Webb.

Miss Rachel Brand for the applicant: Mr William Pusey for the respondent: stipendiary magistrate.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said that the applicant had been arrested

on November 21, 1991 and appeared before the respondent justices on November 22. The justices and the applicant had accepted a submission from the prosecutor that it had not been practicable to obtain information on which a decision about bail could be based.

A full bail application had been made unsuccessfully on November 25. On December 2, the applicant's solicitor had been refused the opportunity to make a second full application, on the basis that the justices had twice decided not to grant bail.

"At the first hearing after that at which the court decided not to grant the defendant bail he may support an application for bail with any argument as to fact or law that he desires (whether or not he has advanced that argument previously.)"

Mr Guy Keen for the applicant: the justices did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said that the applicant had been arrested

against Tracy Webb.

Miss Rachel Brand for the applicant: Mr William Pusey for the respondent: stipendiary magistrate.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said that the applicant had been arrested

against Tracy Webb.

The matter was adjourned again, and at the next hearing before the stipendiary magistrate a woman police constable was called who confirmed the accuracy of her prior statement.

The stipendiary magistrate proceeded to consider the matter as an "existing" justice and committed Webb to the crown court for trial.

The power to commit under section 25(2) did not arise until the court had "begun to try the information summarily". Those words should be given the narrow interpretation laid down by Lord Bridge of Harwich in *R v Dudley Justices, Ex parte Gillard* (1986)

against Tracy Webb.

She next appeared before a stipendiary magistrate who expressed surprise at the justices' decision. He indicated that if the chief prosecution witness came up to proof he would probably ex-

clude information for the purpose of taking the decisions required by this part of the schedule for want of time since the institution of the proceedings against him."

A decision under that paragraph, or perhaps more accurately, an expression of satisfaction under that paragraph, was not a decision not to grant bail. It was a decision or expression of satisfaction that the justices were not in a position to take a decision about bail.

The justices had been in error in deciding as they did. The first occasion on which they had decided not to grant bail was November 25. On December 2 the applicant's advocate was entitled to make a full bail application without reference to fresh circumstances and *mandamus* should be granted to enable such an application to be made.

Mr Justice Brooke agreed.

Solicitors: Bassra Singh & Sweeney, Bradford.

Mr Graham Kent, to pay the higher fees required of overseas students.

The Education (Fees and Awards) Regulations (SI 1985 No 973) provides: "... it shall be lawful to charge higher relevant fees in the case of students who have not a relevant connection with the United Kingdom ... than in the case of students having such a connection."

By regulation 6: "... a student has a relevant connection ... if (a) he has been ordinarily resident therein throughout the three year period preceding ... the beginning of the first term of the student's course; and (b) he has not been resident therein during any part of the three year period wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education."

Mr Philip Naughton, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Maurice Conde for UCL; Mr Nicholas Padfield, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Dominic Chambers for Mr Kent.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that Mr Kent had been born in India and had been brought up there. Prior to his eighteenth birthday, when he would have been liable for military service, he came to this country on February 1, 1988 with the claimed intention of settling here for the rest of his life.

He lived with an aunt in Maidstone and took his levels there. His parents came to England in August 1990, following his father's retirement and were now settled here.

Mr Kent applied for entry to the college from October 1991 when he would have completed three

years residence in the United Kingdom.

The college took the view that he did not satisfy the entrance requirements for home students, by reason, *inter alia*, that his purpose in coming to England was mainly or primarily to complete his education by taking a full-time educational course and then proceeding to go to the United Kingdom. Mr Kent challenged that decision in view of the financial implications.

It was abundantly clear from the form of declaration sought and that made by the judge was that the procedure by originating summons in the Chancery Division was misconceived and the wrong procedure.

The matter was whether Mr Kent's residence prior to his parent's return home in 1990 was wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education.

The judge had been fully entitled to take the view that the intention of settling was the dominant intention to which the purpose of receiving full-time education, however important, was ancillary.

It was the well-established procedure in the Chancery Division where proceedings were being heard on affidavits that if the good faith of the defendant was being challenged, there should be an application for cross-examination. No such application had been made and there was no basis for doubting in substance Mr Kent's evidence or his good faith.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: Wedlake Saint: Hobson Audley.

Committal in excess of powers

Regina v Birmingham Magistrates Court, Ex parte Webb
Before Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Brooke
(Judgment February 3)

The words "summary trial" in section 25(1) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 referred to the process of determining the guilt or innocence of the accused.

A stipendiary magistrate who committed a defendant for crown court trial at a preliminary hearing, reversing a previous decision of lay justices that the defendant should be tried summarily, was acting in excess of his powers.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in remitting to Birmingham Magistrates Court a charge of supplying cannabis

against Tracy Webb.

Miss Rachel Brand for the applicant: Mr William Pusey for the respondent: stipendiary magistrate.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said three ounces of cannabis and £705 together with quantity of jewelry had been found at Webb's flat. She had pleaded guilty before lay justices to two charges of possessing cannabis and not guilty to a charge of supplying a drug and the bench decided the man should be tried summarily.

The case would be remitted with a direction to proceed to summary trial. It was hardly necessary to commit in the course of that trial section 25(2) would remain available to the court.

Mr Justice Brooke agreed.

Solicitors: Tyndallwoods & Millchamp, Birmingham: CPS, Birmingham.

On November 21, 1991 and appeared before the respondent justices on November 22. The justices and the applicant had accepted a submission from the prosecutor that it had not been practicable to obtain information on which a decision about bail could be based.

A decision under that paragraph, or perhaps more accurately, an expression of satisfaction under that paragraph, was not a decision not to grant bail. It was a decision or expression of satisfaction that the justices were not in a position to take a decision about bail.

The justices had been in error in deciding as they did. The first occasion on which they had decided not to grant bail was November 25. On December 2 the applicant's advocate was entitled to make a full bail application without reference to fresh circumstances and *mandamus* should be granted to enable such an application to be made.

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LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that Mr Kent had been born in India and had been brought up there. Prior to his eighteenth birthday, when he would have been liable for military service, he came to this country on February 1, 1988 with the claimed intention of settling here for the rest of his life.

He lived with an aunt in Maidstone and took his levels there. His parents came to England in August 1990, following his father's retirement and were now settled here.

Mr Kent applied for entry to the college from October 1991 when he would have completed three

years residence in the United Kingdom.

The college took the view that he did not satisfy the entrance requirements for home students, by reason, *inter alia*, that his purpose in coming to England was mainly or primarily to complete his education by taking a full-time educational course and then proceeding to go to the United Kingdom. Mr Kent challenged that decision in view of the financial implications.

It was abundantly clear from the form of declaration sought and that made by the judge was that the procedure by originating summons in the Chancery Division was misconceived and the wrong procedure.

The matter was whether Mr Kent's residence prior to his parent's return home in 1990 was wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education.

The judge had been fully entitled to take the view that the intention of settling was the dominant intention to which the purpose of receiving full-time education, however important, was ancillary.

It was the well-established procedure in the Chancery Division where proceedings were being heard on affidavits that if the good faith of the defendant was being challenged, there should be an application for cross-examination. No such application had been made and there was no basis for doubting in substance Mr Kent's evidence or his good faith.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: Wedlake Saint: Hobson Audley.

Chancery case misconceived

Kent v University College London

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss
(Judgment December 17)

Where an issue of law was to be decided and the facts were not substantially in dispute, the issue of proceedings in the Chancery Division and the making of an interlocutory application, together with an agreement that the hearing of that application should be treated as the trial of the action, was a convenient procedure for getting a quick decision on the substantive point without delay. But if it had no application to public law matters which should be dealt with under Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court by the procedure of judicial review.

That was not a mere procedural quirk but reflected a substantive difference between public law and private law matters.

In private law the court was concerned to decide the issue between the parties. In public law discretion had been conferred on public authorities by Parliament and the function of the court was a limited supervisory one.

The stipendiary magistrate had not begun to try the information when he decided to commit Webb. His power was a statutory power and he had not brought himself within that power.

The case would be remitted with a direction to proceed to summary trial. It was hardly necessary to commit in the course of that trial section 25(2) would remain available to the court.

Mr Justice Brooke agreed.

Solicitors: Tyndallwoods & Millchamp, Birmingham: CPS, Birmingham.

Mr Graham Kent, to pay the higher fees required of overseas students.

The Education (Fees and Awards) Regulations (SI 1985 No 973) provides: "... it shall be lawful to charge higher relevant fees in the case of students who have not a relevant connection with the United Kingdom ... than in the case of students having such a connection."

By regulation 6: "... a student has a relevant connection ... if (a) he has been ordinarily resident therein throughout the three year period preceding ... the beginning of the first term of the student's course; and (b) he has not been resident therein during any part of the three year period wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education."

Mr Philip Naughton, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Maurice Conde for UCL; Mr Nicholas Padfield, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Dominic Chambers for Mr Kent.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that Mr Kent had been born in India and had been brought up there. Prior to his eighteenth birthday, when he would have been liable for military service, he came to this country on February 1, 1988 with the claimed intention of settling here for the rest of his life.

He lived with an aunt in Maidstone and took his levels there. His parents came to England in August 1990, following his father's retirement and were now settled here.

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His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: Wedlake Saint: Hobson Audley.

Director of the Serious Fraud Office

The Attorney General wishes to appoint a new Director of the Serious Fraud Office as soon as possible.

The Office was established in 1988 to investigate and prosecute the most serious and complex cases of fraud. The Director is in overall charge of the Office, reporting to the Attorney General, and is responsible to Parliament for a current annual budget of about £20M. As well as leading a team of about 150 staff, including lawyers and accountants, the Director will be involved in developing the role of the Office, presenting its work to Parliament and the public and contributing to policies, at national and international level, to combat fraud.

The successful candidate will be a senior and respected lawyer, with substantial relevant experience and an understanding of the legal issues involved in bringing fraud cases to trial. Management experience would also be desirable.

The appointment will probably be for five years in the first instance, but longer or shorter appointments might be considered. Details of the salary and terms of appointment will be subject to discussion with candidates after interview.

If you think that you can fulfil these requirements and wish to be considered please write, enclosing a full CV and giving the names of two referees who may be approached immediately in confidence, to Barry Hilton, Recruitment & Assessment Services, Almon Road, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB. For further details of the post please contact Barry Hilton on Basingstoke (0256) 846601 (answering service in operation outside office hours). The closing date for applications is 28th February 1992. Selected candidates will be invited for interview in mid-March.

The world at a surveyor's feet

There are more jobs than applicants in a profession that takes a close look at the land and the sea, says Sally Watts

Day after day, in all weathers, Adam Greenland navigates up and down the River Thames, monitoring the channels of the estuary and river to ascertain minimum depth and determine what type of vessels can pass.

Mr Greenland, aged 29, is a hydrographic surveyor and marine officer with the Port of London Authority (PLA). Several years in the Merchant Navy influenced his career choice, and in 1985 he enrolled at East London Polytechnic for a BSc honours degree in surveying and mapping sciences. His final-year options for offshore work — geodesy, sedimentology and oceanography — coupled with the core subjects gave him wide knowledge and professional techniques.

His first job was site surveying in the North Sea. As part of a team, he collected data that had to be processed ashore and interpreted by his company's geophysicists and by oil companies. The object was to find pockets of gas and decide how flat and safe the seabed would be for drilling and positioning of oil rigs.

Mr Greenland is now at

Gravesend, Kent, working with a PLA team to monitor the channels, which are always changing as bars form and areas silt up. Relatively few surveyors are in hydrography — inshore and offshore marine surveying — but the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says the need is growing, and there are more jobs than applicants.

This also applies to mineral surveying, which can involve anything from diamond mining to gravel extraction, and marine resource management, where surveyors are needed in, for example, coastal engineering, land reclamation and fisheries work.

Thirty per cent of qualified hydrographic surveyors are at work overseas, and Mr Greenland sees opportunities in the opening-up of Europe. His aim is to be a port hydrographic officer. He is now in the final stages of qualifying, and is preparing an analysis of the estuary channels.

Chartered surveyors have a wide career choice. In addition to those already named, there are general practice, rural practice involving managing estates and farms, building and quantity surveying,



Mapping the Thames: Adam Greenland surveys the changing channels of the river estuary

or property, in which surveyors deal with urban planning and development projects from start to finish. General practice is the largest area, accounting for nearly half of all surveyors, probably because there are so many aspects, including valuation, investment, management and agency.

You can specialise in housing, plant and machinery or channels,

in which you would value fine art and advise on auctions and furniture, silver and paintings.

Ways of training also vary, including three-year honours degree courses, four-year sandwich courses, five-year part-time courses and distance learning. All but the three-year course count towards the Test of Professional Competence, which leads to

chartership. This normally takes two years, or three years for quantity surveyors. Graduates with non-related degrees can take a conversion course or prepare part-time for a diploma while working in a surveyor's office.

Michael Newey, aged 28, is in general practice with a City company. Like Mr Greenland he likes the variety of visiting and valuing

properties from London to Newquay, arbitrating and negotiating. He once led a rent review team and now, as the company chairman's personal assistant, he handles company liaison.

He was uncertain about career choice on leaving school and spent time gaining experience with a practice in Kent, then graduated in land management at Portsmouth Polytechnic. He is now an associate of the institute.

Mr Newey is keen on working with beginners. In 1990-1 he was the national student liaison officer, visiting undergraduates on courses to explain the wide range of careers open to them.

He has also been a careers coordinator for his county, and was one of the production team for a new careers video.

"I find career work incredibly satisfying," he says. "You get involved, meet people and build up a network." Michael is now the vice-chairman of the junior organisation of the institute. All these activities bring opportunities for networking.

The institution has set up a schools-company scheme, linking sixth forms at 2,300 public and private schools with 1,500 surveyors to provide information and, sometimes, work-shadowing.

For further information: Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Education Department, Surveyor Court, Wensley Way, Coventry CV4 8JE (071-222 7000 and 0203 694757)



Double fair date

DIRECTIONS Week '92, which is supported by *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* and runs from June 30 to July 4 at the Business Design Centre, Islington, north London, will combine two career fairs this year. The first, the London Graduate Recruitment Fair, from June 30 to July 2, is organised by London University's careers advisory service.

The second, the Schools' Fair, on July 3 and 4, is for school-leavers going into higher education or employment, and will provide career counselling covering degree choice, university and vocational training programmes. Seminars and career workshops will enable all students to meet representatives from business and colleges.

Information: Schools' Fair Hotline, 071-782 6872

071-481 1066

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

FAX 071-782 7826

CANADA

The Medicine Hat Regional Hospital is a modern, progressive, 446-bed acute and extended care facility located in south eastern Alberta, Canada.

Representatives of the Hospital will be holding interviews for interested applicants in late March 1992 in London, Dublin and Glasgow.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

If you have successfully written the Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA) exam or have graduated from one of the following programmes, we would like to hear from you:

University of Dublin (in or after June 1987)

Queens College, Dublin (in or after June 1985)

University College, Dublin (in or after June 1986)

Queens College, Glasgow (in or after June 1987)

North East London Polytechnic (in or after June 1985)

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

As the ideal candidate, you will be a graduate of a degree programme recognised by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists with at least three years of related clinical experience.

The Medicine Hat Regional Hospital offers a competitive compensation and benefits package, a stimulating state-of-the-art environment, and ample opportunity for professional development.

Interested applicants are to apply in confidence by February 28, 1992, quoting reference number: MHRH100, to our local contact: Karen Harvey, Rada Recruitment Communications, 195 Euston Road, London NW1 2BN. Telephone: 071-388 8564.

HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT

The History of Parliament wishes to recruit a Research Assistant for the new 1422-1509 Section under the Editorship of Dr Linda Clark. The Salary will be within the range applicable to University Lecturers A (£12,129 - £17,827) with the appropriate London Allowance (currently £2042 per annum). The closing date for applications will be 12 March 1992.

Further particulars are available from the General Editor, History of Parliament, Institute of Historical Research, 34 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9EZ.

PARLIAMENTARY & LEGAL OFFICER

The National Consumer Council promotes and protects the interests of consumers, not just in the high street, but in health, holidays and housing. We do this by sound research and skilful, lobbying.

We are looking for someone energetic to lead our legal and parliamentary offices. In the current political climate this is a demanding and challenging job.

You will:

- * manage and develop our work in Parliament;
- * advise on political and parliamentary strategy;
- * run the Council's legal office;
- The job calls for:

* experience and/or knowledge of parliament;

* tact and political sensitivity;

* a legal qualification and good legal judgement;

* first class communication skills;

* the ability to represent Council policy at the highest levels;

* the ability to combine leadership with teamwork.

Salary approx. £20,000 per annum

For further information and application form contact Paul Murray, National Consumer Council, 28 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 6DH

Tel: 071-750 3469

Closing date for completed application forms is: Thursday 27 February.

Interviews are being held on pm 11 and 12 March.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

required for

NATIONAL CHARITY

Salary: NJC PO 5/6 £24,825 - £27,543 (inc. LVI)

We need someone to monitor, guide and control our financial and administrative activities and be our Company Secretary. We are a well established charity with 42 staff; working to provide information to disabled people from our London office.

You will have an accountancy qualification or other qualification suited to the Company Secretary role and considerable relevant experience. Experience of the charitable field, including fundraising, and an understanding of disability would be advantageous.

Application forms and further details from: Glenda Hill, Illustrated Publishing Foundation, 280-282 Haverstock Road, London NW3 6SA. Tel: 071-288 6111. Closing date for applications: 12 March.

The DLF aims to be an equal opportunities employer.

For an application form and further details, please write to:

The 1992 SOCPO Recruitment Advertising Awards are approaching fast, and if you're dedicated to raising your profile, there's no single more effective way to take part in this prestigious event.

This year's ceremony will be held on 9th April at the stylish Plymouth Pavilions, and we're expecting a record number of entries.

The Judging Panel will consist of independent representatives from Creative, Copywriting and Media, as well as Executive Committee Members from SOCPO. They will select 15 category winners from which one overall winner will be chosen.

It's a prestigious event on the advertising calendar, attracting sponsorship from *The Observer*, *The Daily Express*, *Opportunities*, *Building*, *The Guardian*, *Community Care*, *The Times Educational Supplement*, *Personnel Management*, *New Civil Engineer*, *Public Money*, *Local Government Chronicle*, *The Independent*, *The Sunday Times*, *Municipal Journal* and *The Daily Mirror*, together with certificates of merit courtesy of *Personnel Today*.

For an application form and further details, please write to:

Angela Fredrick, Austin Knight Advertising Ltd, Tricorn House, 51-53 Hagley Road, Birmingham B16 8TP, or telephone her on 021 456 1375.

SOCPO



RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING AWARDS

1992

Due to THE EUROPEAN EXHIBITION ON NATURAL HEALTH + MEDICINE 1992

The organizing committee is recruiting, for entry into an immediate role.

INDEPENDENT PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) FOR GREAT BRITAIN

Address will be supplied by our sources.

For information, contact:

MOLLY PRODUCTIONS (01032) 91 302247

Service requires only.

For further details, please apply to:

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For an application form and further details, please write to:

Ang

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax (74586) 6.30 Breakfast News (87865401)
 9.05 Kitroy. Robert Kitroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (4087708) 9.50 Hot Choc. Ken Horn prepares prawns and scallops in a light black bean butter sauce (5058586)
 10.00 News, regional news and weather (5842499) 10.05 Playdays (r) (1525321) 10.25 Pingoo (r) (5845586) 10.35 No Kidding. Quiz game show for families (531557)
 11.00 News, regional news and weather (7911692) 11.05 Wildlife Gems. Fergus Keeling introduces film clips of animals taking mud baths, dust baths and water baths (7202031) 11.30 People Today, presented by Miriam Stoppard and Adrian Mole (395126), includes news, regional news and weather at 12.00
 12.20 Pebble Mill. Music and chat introduced by Joti Spiers (s) (3894692) 12.55 Regional News and weather (5099124)
 1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (17332) 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (601305)
 1.50 Olympics '92. Helen Rollason introduces action from the men's giant slalom, the 4 x 10km men's cross-country relay and the team event in the 3 x 10km Nordic combined (3187357)
 3.50 Joostens Jones (7503044) 4.00 The New Yogi Bear Show (r) (5684976) 4.10 Jackanory. William Rushton with *Tarts and Pies*, the second of five stories by Anthony Smith (9973780) 4.20 Fantastic Max (r) (6281321) 4.35 The Really Wild Roadshow. Includes a visit to the Welsh Mountain Zoo. (Ceefax) (s) (2259418)
 5.00 Newsround (7552626) 5.10 Grange Hill (Ceefax) (s) (2010741)
 5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (241418). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Weather (825)
 6.30 Regional News Magazines (505). Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 Holiday. Sue Cook samples the delights of Madeira as a winter resort; David Jessel is in the Umbria region of Italy to test his culinary skills; and Ross King discovers ways of holidaying in London without breaking the bank. (Ceefax) (s) (4963)
 7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (785)
 8.00 The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin. Following the demise of the Perrin's commune, Reggie decides that a job at Amalgamated Aerosols is not to be sniffed at (r). (Ceefax) (2893)
 8.30 A Question of Sport introduced by David Coleman. This week Bill Beaumont and John Barnes are joined by Laura Davies, David Morris, Chris Woods and Richard Corrie. (Ceefax) (s) (9418)
 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with John Humphrys. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (9012)



In the driving seat: Jill Baker as the cab firm boss (9.30pm)

9.30 Rides. (c) CHOICE: A good-natured piece of feminism from producer Lavinia Warner of *Turbo* and writer Carole Hayman charts the misadventures of a London mini-cab firm run by women. The series has echoes of Debbie Horden's *Making Out*, though the humour is less earthy. Jill Baker plays the bustling and resourceful boss, drawing on her 23 years in the army to mould an assortment of misfits and layabouts into an effective fighting force. To underline the point about a woman coping on her own, Hayman gives Baker a teenage daughter to look after but no husband. The other women characters try to embed the feminist theme and include a Turkish girl in flight from a arranged marriage, a black singer's mother and a married ex-wife. All the men in the show are in very degrees mismatch, though their misdeeds are mostly an occasion for fun. Male viewers need not take offence. (Ceefax) (s) (568587). Wales: Week in Week Out 10.00-10.50 Rides
 10.30 Film 92 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are *The Prince of Tides* and a remake of the 1950s classic *Father of the Bride*, with Steve Martin in the role originally played by Spencer Tracy. Plus James Ferman talking about his role as Britain's official censor (647505). Northern Ireland: Open House
 10.50 Olympics '92 introduced by Helen Rollason. The qualifying heats of the 1,000km short-track speed-skating, the men's giant slalom and the first two ice hockey quarter-finals (505573)
 11.50 Weather (500499). Ends at 11.55. Northern Ireland and Wales (to 12.20am) Film 92.
 2.00 The Way Ahead. John Murray with details of April's new benefits for the disabled (r) (3842548). Ends at 2.15

BBC 2

8.00 Breakfast News (2374789)
 8.15 Westminster. A round-up of business from both Houses (3395673)
 9.00 Daytime on 2. Educational programmes
 9.20 News and weather (10327302) followed by *You and Me* (r) (7497418) 2.15 Bitten by the Bug. Professor Erik Holm continues his exploration of the insect world with a look at how they secrete odours to mark out their territory (7495854) 2.30 See Heart Magazine series for the hearing impaired (r) (165)
 3.00 News and weather (8713857) followed by Westminster Live presented by Vivien White (4086334) 3.50 News, regional news and weather (7598586)
 4.00 Catchword. Paul Cola with another round of the quiz game for wordsmiths (416)
 4.30 Wild World: Stein's Mountain — a Wildlife Western. A portrait of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, a fertile valley in the Oregon desert (s) (614925)
 5.20 Growing Pains. Geoffrey Smith is joined by Peter and Jackie Carver in the Craft Garden in North Cave, North Humbershire (r) (3674302)
 5.30 Old Gardener, New Gardener. In the last of the series Geoff Hamilton and Gay Search give advice on getting rid of and planting trees (s) (854)
 6.00 Olympics Today. Desmond Lyman introduces highlights from day 11. The commentators are David Vine, David Coleman and Gerald Sinstad (11996789)
 7.45 Assignment: The Second Liberation. Peter Godwin reports on the birth of democracy in Kenya 28 years after independence. In an interview President Moi reveals how democracy was forced on him by the West and warns that his country may be ripped apart by tribal warfare (712234)



Foodies: Paul Heiney, Jill Goolden, Michael Barry (8.30pm)

8.30 Food and Drink. How western Australian Aborigines cook exotic fish from the Pacific, and information on how women intending to become pregnant can shape their diet to ensure a healthy baby. Plus a recipe for ginger pudding. Presented by Paul Heiney, Michael Barry and Jill Goolden (s) (7980)
 9.00 Quantum Leap. Science fiction series starring Scott Bakula as a time-trapped scientist, in this episode going back to 1970 and into the body of a native American Indian helping his grandfather return to his reservation where he can die with dignity. (Ceefax) (s) (70741)
 9.45 Minutes: She Married a Life.
 (c) CHOICE: *Joining Clinton*, Davis's first, explores the romantic relationships which women can form with different serving life sentences. Her first examples are much the same: in each case the woman is on the rebound from a bad marriage. In which the husband beat or abused her. The new relationship starts through correspondence and continues through phone calls and visits. Asked why she wants to marry a life, the twice-divorced Linda replies: "Because he can't beat me up or go with other women". It is companionship, albeit at one remove, without the risk of being hurt. Linda is content to leave double murderer Jimmy safety behind bars. But Julie has no doubts about marrying Keith, who is coming to the end of his sentence, and Mire is already choosing wallpaper for the home she hopes to share with Tom. (Ceefax) (s) (568585)
 10.30 Newsworld presented by Peter Snow (788079)
 11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (458586)
 11.55 Weather (520012)
 12.00 Open University: Open Forum Magazine (66548). Ends at 12.30am

SATELLITE

SKY NEWS
 • Vis the Astra and Marco Polo satellites. News on the hour, 8.00am News (147492)
 9.30 Nightline (90557) 10.00 Dayline (46159)
 10.30 Beyond 2000 (50129) 11.00 Dayline (46454) 11.30 Newswatch (52729) 12.30 Good Morning America (50049) 1.00 Good Morning America (19789) 2.30 Performance Live (5052760) 3.15 Performer Live (558492)
 4.30 Beyond 2000 (50598) 5.00 Live At Five (52845) 5.30 Newsround (50049) 6.00 News (49693) 12.30 Newsline (50088) 1.30 ABC News (6013) 2.30 Target (51426) 3.30 ABC News (50971) 4.30 Beyond 2000 (57722) 5.30 Newsline (27619)
 SKY ONE
 • Vis the Astra and Marco Polo satellites. 6.00pm The DJ Kai Show (27403147) 8.40 Mid-Pointers (50129) 9.00 Dayline (46159)
 10.30 News 9-10 (5042019) 9.30 The New League II. To Be Wiser (59215) 10.00

Maude (15298) 10.30 The Young Doctors (50129) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (50129) 11.30 The Young and the Restless (13508) 12.30 Barnaby Jones (10418) 1.30 Another World (4022218) 2.20 Santa Barbera (73020) 2.45 West Of The Sun (50129) 3.00 The D.J. Keel Show (4821329) 3.50 Diff'rent Strokes (1031) 3.52 Bewitched (2829) 6.00 Facts Of Life (6437) 6.30 Candid Camera (700) 7.00 The Love Boat (50129) 7.30 The Love Boat (50129) 8.00 The Love Boat (50129) 8.30 The Love Boat (50129) 8.45 The Love Boat (50129) 9.00 The Love Boat (50129) 9.30 The Love Boat (50129) 10.00 Love At First Sight (s) (6025) 10.30 Hitchcock (50215) 11.00 Police Story (50321) 12.00 Monsters (2854) 12.30 Crosses

SKY MOVIES+
 • Vis the Astra and Marco Polo satellites.
 10.00 Cold River (1982) Adventure (24037)
 12.00 A Green Journey (1980) A romantic drama (70437)
 1.45 Mayreling (1988) A government agent catches a narcotics gang (Ceefax) (s) (568585)
 2.45 Flashback (1989) Comedy (Ceefax) (s) (568585)
 3.00 The Young Doctors (50129) 3.30 The Love Boat (50129) 4.00 Who Are The Debutts And Where Did They Get 19 Kids? (1976) Documentary

Series Cup (22019) 7.00 Belief, Length Football (50049) 8.00 The Football Show (52924) 11.00 NHL Ice Heart Of Dixie (1989) About a group of college girls (47287)
 1.00 The Footballer's Football Show (5021059) 4.00 Crosses

EUROSPORT
 • Vis the Astra satellite.
 8.00 Olympic Morning (50769) 8.30 Skii Star (50769) 9.00 Figure Skating (503032) 9.30 Skii Cross (40476) 10.00 Skii Cross (50261) 10.30 Skii Cross (50261) 12.00 Ice Hockey (2899) 2.30 Skii Nordic (46495)
 4.00 Nordic (46495) 6.00 Ice Hockey (46182) 8.30 European Nordic (46495) 10.00 Nordic (46495) 12.00 European (46495) 7.00 Olympic Night (50769)
 8.00 Cross Country (50769) 9.00 Nordic (50769) 10.00 Nordic (50769) 11.00 Nordic (50769) 12.00 Nordic (50769) 13.00 Nordic (50769) 14.00 Nordic (50769) 15.00 Nordic (50769) 16.00 Nordic (50769) 17.00 Nordic (50769) 18.00 Nordic (50769) 19.00 Nordic (50769) 20.00 Nordic (50769) 21.00 Nordic (50769) 22.00 Nordic (50769) 23.00 Nordic (50769) 24.00 Nordic (50769) 25.00 Nordic (50769) 26.00 Nordic (50769) 27.00 Nordic (50769) 28.00 Nordic (50769) 29.00 Nordic (50769) 30.00 Nordic (50769) 31.00 Nordic (50769) 32.00 Nordic (50769) 33.00 Nordic (50769) 34.00 Nordic (50769) 35.00 Nordic (50769) 36.00 Nordic (50769) 37.00 Nordic (50769) 38.00 Nordic (50769) 39.00 Nordic (50769) 40.00 Nordic (50769) 41.00 Nordic (50769) 42.00 Nordic (50769) 43.00 Nordic (50769) 44.00 Nordic (50769) 45.00 Nordic (50769) 46.00 Nordic (50769) 47.00 Nordic (50769) 48.00 Nordic (50769) 49.00 Nordic (50769) 50.00 Nordic (50769) 51.00 Nordic (50769) 52.00 Nordic (50769) 53.00 Nordic (50769) 54.00 Nordic (50769) 55.00 Nordic (50769) 56.00 Nordic (50769) 57.00 Nordic (50769) 58.00 Nordic (50769) 59.00 Nordic (50769) 60.00 Nordic (50769) 61.00 Nordic (50769) 62.00 Nordic (50769) 63.00 Nordic (50769) 64.00 Nordic (50769) 65.00 Nordic (50769) 66.00 Nordic (50769) 67.00 Nordic (50769) 68.00 Nordic (50769) 69.00 Nordic (50769) 70.00 Nordic (50769) 71.00 Nordic (50769) 72.00 Nordic (50769) 73.00 Nordic (50769) 74.00 Nordic (50769) 75.00 Nordic (50769) 76.00 Nordic (50769) 77.00 Nordic (50769) 78.00 Nordic (50769) 79.00 Nordic (50769) 80.00 Nordic (50769) 81.00 Nordic (50769) 82.00 Nordic (50769) 83.00 Nordic (50769) 84.00 Nordic (50769) 85.00 Nordic (50769) 86.00 Nordic (50769) 87.00 Nordic (50769) 88.00 Nordic (50769) 89.00 Nordic (50769) 90.00 Nordic (50769) 91.00 Nordic (50769) 92.00 Nordic (50769) 93.00 Nordic (50769) 94.00 Nordic (50769) 95.00 Nordic (50769) 96.00 Nordic (50769) 97.00 Nordic (50769) 98.00 Nordic (50769) 99.00 Nordic (50769) 100.00 Nordic (50769) 101.00 Nordic (50769) 102.00 Nordic (50769) 103.00 Nordic (50769) 104.00 Nordic (50769) 105.00 Nordic (50769) 106.00 Nordic (50769) 107.00 Nordic (50769) 108.00 Nordic (50769) 109.00 Nordic (50769) 110.00 Nordic (50769) 111.00 Nordic (50769) 112.00 Nordic (50769) 113.00 Nordic (50769) 114.00 Nordic (50769) 115.00 Nordic (50769) 116.00 Nordic (50769) 117.00 Nordic (50769) 118.00 Nordic (50769) 119.00 Nordic (50769) 120.00 Nordic (50769) 121.00 Nordic (50769) 122.00 Nordic (50769) 123.00 Nordic (50769) 124.00 Nordic (50769) 125.00 Nordic (50769) 126.00 Nordic (50769) 127.00 Nordic (50769) 128.00 Nordic (50769) 129.00 Nordic (50769) 130.00 Nordic (50769) 131.00 Nordic (50769) 132.00 Nordic (50769) 133.00 Nordic (50769) 134.00 Nordic (50769) 135.00 Nordic (50769) 136.00 Nordic (50769) 137.00 Nordic (50769) 138.00 Nordic (50769) 139.00 Nordic (50769) 140.00 Nordic (50769) 141.00 Nordic (50769) 142.00 Nordic (50769) 143.00 Nordic (50769) 144.00 Nordic (50769) 145.00 Nordic (50769) 146.00 Nordic (50769) 147.00 Nordic (50769) 148.00 Nordic (50769) 149.00 Nordic (50769) 150.00 Nordic (50769) 151.00 Nordic (50769) 152.00 Nordic (50769) 153.00 Nordic (50769) 154.00 Nordic (50769) 155.00 Nordic (50769) 156.00 Nordic (50769) 157.00 Nordic (50769) 158.00 Nordic (50769) 159.00 Nordic (50769) 160.00 Nordic (50769) 161.00 Nordic (50769) 162.00 Nordic (50769) 163.00 Nordic (50769) 164.00 Nordic (50769) 165.00 Nordic (50769) 166.00 Nordic (50769) 167.00 Nordic (50769) 168.00 Nordic (50769) 169.00 Nordic (50769) 170.00 Nordic (50769) 171.00 Nordic (50769) 172.00 Nordic (50769) 173.00 Nordic (50769) 174.00 Nordic (50769) 175.00 Nordic (50769) 176.00 Nordic (50769) 177.00 Nordic (50769) 178.00 Nordic (50769) 179.00 Nordic (50769) 180.00 Nordic (50769) 181.00 Nordic (50769) 182.00 Nordic (50769) 183.00 Nordic (50769) 184.00 Nordic (50769) 185.00 Nordic (50769) 186.00 Nordic (50769) 187.00 Nordic (50769) 188.00 Nordic (50769) 189.00 Nordic (50769) 190.00 Nordic (50769) 191.00 Nordic (50769) 192.00 Nordic (50769) 193.00 Nordic (50769) 194.00 Nordic (50769) 195.00 Nordic (50769) 196.00 Nordic (50769) 197.00 Nordic (50769) 198.00 Nordic (50769) 199.00 Nordic (50769) 200.00 Nordic (50769) 201.00 Nordic (50769) 202.00 Nordic (50769) 203.00 Nordic (50769) 204.00 Nordic (50769) 205.00 Nordic (50769) 206.00 Nordic (50769) 207.00 Nordic (50769) 208.00 Nordic (50769) 209.00 Nordic (50769) 210.00 Nordic (50769) 211.00 Nordic (50769) 212.00 Nordic (50769) 213.00 Nordic (50769) 214.00 Nordic (50769) 215.00 Nordic (50769) 216.00 Nordic (50769) 217.00 Nordic (50769) 218.00 Nordic (50769) 219.00 Nordic (50769) 220.00 Nordic (50769) 221.00 Nordic (50769) 222.00 Nordic (50769) 223.00 Nordic (50769) 224.00 Nordic (50769) 225.00 Nordic (50769) 226.00 Nordic (50769) 227.00 Nordic (50769) 228.00 Nordic (50769) 229.00 Nordic (50769) 230.00 Nordic (50769) 231.00 Nordic (50769)